C. B

Reserve

App. F. IX-4

1929-30. File No. CB

Previous References

CB

Serial Nos. 159-29 F
GS 1, 20, 21

Later References

GS 1, 5, 9-29-28, 29.

General and Revenue Secretariat.

Serial Nos. GS 1, 20, 21.

Part B for June 1930.

SUBJECT

Correspondence re: K.G.F. disturbances. (Including Residency Corrs.

G.O. No 4563-70/CS. d 5.6.1930

To
The Resident.
Do Kolar.
Dy S.P.
Chief Constable M.S.T.
Regr. High Court.
C/Dy to Taylor & Hughes Contr.

Records the report of events connected with the K.G.F. strike

Submitted to His Highness.

I beg to report that the coolies working on the Mines in the Kolar Gold Field have gone on strike. The origin of the trouble is not clearly known but is attributed to the fact that the Mining Authorities desired to introduce, or to extend the application of a system of finger print registration for purposes of identification. The trouble which originated in two of the Mines is said to have spread to the other mines also and some 18000 coolies have joined the strike.

2. As a measure of precaution, the Police force in the area has been strengthened by a detachment of 200 men from the Reserve Police force in Bangalore. One hundred men of the Imperial Service Lancers, with the necessary complement of officers, have also been despatched.

3. The Second Member of Council (Mr. C.S. Balasundaram Iyer) with the Inspector General of Police has proceeded to the Kolar Gold Fields, in order to acquaint himself with the situation.

4. So far as present information goes, there has been no rioting or violence but the situation is being closely watched and necessary precautions are being taken.

Mirza M. Ismail

DEWAN.

Camp Closepet,
8th April 1930.

Record of Cases submitted for the Orders of His Highness the Maharaja.

Subject.

Report regarding the strike of the coolies working in the Mines in the Kolar Gold Field.

456

Order.

~~KRW~~

10/4/30

C. Secy

MJ

14-4-30

13

Submitted to His Highness.

In continuation of my Submission Note dated the 8th April 1930 and the telegrams sent from time to time to the address of the Private Secretary, I submit herewith for His Highness's information a brief note giving a connected ~~idea~~ account of the events relating to the strike on the Kolar Gold Field as gathered from the several official reports received so far.

Mirza M. Ismail

Dewan.

Bangalore,
12th April 1930.

Brief account of the disturbance on the Kolar Gold Field.

The Kolar Gold Field Mining Board authorities introduced in January last a system of obtaining finger prints from every one of their employees and getting the men also medically examined in view of the commitments under the Workmen's Compensation Regulation. It appears that previously the finger impressions were being generally taken only from persons employed in specially important places or from such as were convicted of theft, etc. The extension of the system to all seems to have caused some discontent. No serious objection or organized protest seems to have been preferred and no signs of impending trouble were noticed till the 1st of April, on which date an anonymous leaflet (affixed to a rock in Oorgaum Cooly Lines) calling upon the coolies not to give the finger impressions and to strike work on the 8th April, came to the notice of the Special Superintendent of Police, who reported the same immediately to the Deputy Commissioner. The Deputy Commissioner immediately met the Mining authorities and took steps to allay wrong impressions in the minds of the labourers and bring about amicable relations. On the afternoon of the 3rd, four hundred men stayed away from work in the Oorgaum Mine and by the 7th, the strike spread to all

the other mines also. Prompt precautionary measures were taken to cope with any possible breach of the peace and at the request of the Deputy Commissioner, 200 men from the Provincial Special Reserve were sent under an Assistant Superintendent of Police in addition to the men of the District Police who had been got from Kolar. There was no sign of serious mischief until the 7th.

Towards the afternoon of the 7th, however, a crowd of about 300 workers seems to have come across a group of watchmen who had not joined the strike and a scuffle ensued between them. The Special Magistrate, K.G.F., got information about this scuffle and immediately went to the spot accompanied by the Munsiff Magistrate and a buss load of special reserve. His attempts to disperse the crowd peacefully were of no avail. On the contrary, the police who tried to disperse the crowd were hit by stones, sticks and the like and about 15 of them were injured, the Assistant Superintendent of Police being one of them. It is reported that the Magistrate and the Police officers were in serious danger. In these circumstances, the Magistrate ordered the Police to open fire on the crowd after giving the latter due warning which passed unheeded. Buck shot was used and it is reported that about 44 persons were injured. They were removed to the hospital where they

are being treated. The injuries are of a minor character except in the case of two. There has been no loss of life. In the meanwhile, Government, at the instance of the Deputy Commissioner, despatched a hundred mounted men of the Mysore Lancers on the 7th evening. Their presence had a most salutary effect and the night passed off quietly. The next day another detachment of 100 Sowars was despatched to the K.G.F.

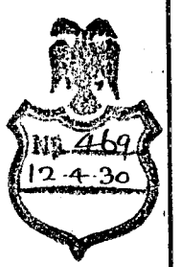
The District Magistrate is on the spot and the Inspector General of Police and the Second Member of Council have also visited the place. The situation has improved considerably. Some of the employees are reported to be negotiating with the mining authorities for resumption of work and normal conditions are expected to be restored at an early date.

One unsatisfactory feature of the handling of the situation was that after the scuffle on the 7th instant referred to above, the District Magistrate asked the Kolar Battalion of the Auxiliary Force to hold itself in readiness to disperse any unlawful assembly. Although this action was taken in consultation with the Commandant of the Battalion and the services of the force were not used except for patrol duty, still it was both unwise and unnecessary to have called in the Auxiliary Force at all. And the manner in which

this was done (viz., by an order purporting to have been passed under Section 130 of the Criminal Procedure Code) was also irregular. In addition to the local Police, the Deputy Commissioner had already at his disposal 200 Reserve Police from Bangalore besides about 90 men of the District Police. It was thought wise to send a couple of hundred sowars also from the Mysore Lancers.

Record of Cases submitted for the Orders of His Highness the Maharaja.

Subject.



Brief note giving a connected account of the events relating to the strike on the Kolar Gold Field.

468

Order.

KRW

19/4/30

C. Reg

23-4-30

Sent to Members of Cl

23/4

24/4

24/4/30

24.4.30

Submitted to His Highness.

I submit herewith for His Highness' gracious information the accompanying papers relating to the strike situation on the Kolar Gold Field. The District Magistrate has issued orders prohibiting the holding of public meetings and carrying of arms, cudgels, etc. in the area as it seemed that special measures were called for to maintain law and order

A message received from him this morning says that last night passed off quietly.

M

Mirza M. Ismail

D E W A N.

Bangalore,
21st April 1930.

Record of Cases submitted for the Orders of His Highness the Maharaja.

Subject.

Papers relating to the strike situation on the Kolar Gold Field.

473

Order.

~~KRW~~

23/4/30

C. Levy

24-4-32

Sub to Member Jol

24/4

10357
25/4

G503
24/4

G131
4/5

25/4

27.4.30

G514
5/5/4

11

Submitted to His Highness.

The situation on the Gold Field shows little sign of improvement. Government, the Mining Companies and the coolies, too, are undergoing serious financial loss. The loss to Government is computed at Rs11,000 or so a day. It is not easy to find a solution of the difficulties that have arisen between the Mining Companies and the coolies, but I thought that I might as well visit the spot and see if anything could possibly be done to bring about a settlement between them. I have therefore decided to go there tomorrow and afford such of the representatives of the coolies who might be anxious to lay their grievances before me an opportunity of doing so. The result of my visit will be duly reported for His Highness's information.

Mirza M. Ismail

Dewan.

Bangalore,
26th April 1930.

Record of Cases submitted for the Orders of His Highness the Maharaja.

Subject.

492
26-4-30

Papers relating to the situation in the Kolar Gold Field.

475

Order.

~~KRM~~
28/4/30

C. Leg
Dr
2-5-30

ucdate
MM
1/5

HH-492

General and Revenue Secretariat

Papers relating to the Situation in the Kolar Gold Field.

(*)

31. All urgent or confidential files returned with His Highness' orders may in the absence of instructions or indications to the contrary, be ordinarily circulated to the Members of Council for perusal after the issue of orders.

33. The Secretaries concerned should see that orders in the cases referred to above are issued at once and that the files are returned immediately after to the Chief Secretary for circulation to the Members.

34. In all other cases, the files will first be circulated to the Members of Council at Headquarters and then sent to the Secretariat concerned for the issue of orders.

Circulated to Members of Council for perusal of His Highness' orders before/after issue of orders. (*Vide* Rules 31, 33 and 34 of the Subsidiary Rules for the conduct of business of Council in the Manual of Council Rules and Procedure.)

Chief Secretary to Government.

Through the Secretary to Government,

.....Department.

6676/15 FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL. 8/5/30

8330/6/5 SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL. 6/5

10678/5/5 THIRD MEMBER OF COUNCIL. 5/5

NOTE.—Contn. sheet. E233

9/5

3855

App. F. III—2]

General and Revenue Secretariat | File No. of 192

Serial No.

Letter No. C.C. 20/29-30 dated 1st May 1930 from the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District, submitting a self-narrative report on the K.G.F. strike in April 1930, with commendations of the officers concerned.

Submitted for perusal in the first letter

III Member
II Member
I Member
Dewan

Rg 2/5730

10610/25

Rm 2/5

OFFICE OF THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL
5 MAY 1930
No. 6212

OFFICE OF THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL
7 MAY 1930
No. 6188

4401/5/5

ku 3.5.30

CSM 5/5

Rg 6/5730

Mudr 8/5730

(Another Copy of report sent to Dewan for perusal)

Dew 8/5

Letter dated 6th May 1930 from the Deputy Commissioner, forwarding a copy of a letter received by him from Mr. Ralph Nye conveying the thanks of the Mining Companies to the Subordinate Magistracy.

Letter dated 6th May from Mr. Ralph Nye,

Note—Contn. Sheet.

WD 066—GPB—30,000—26-7-29

Serial No.

conveying the thanks of the Mining Companies for the services rendered by Mr. A.V. Ramanathan, Deputy Commissioner.

A draft review is put up for consideration.

It is proposed to omit the whole of the covering letter of the Deputy Commissioner and portions of the narrative report, as indicated. A statement giving the number of persons injured on the two occasions is appended.

It is better to show the report informally to Mr. Nye, who is coming to see me on Tuesday, as it contains references to the Mining Companies and two of Mr. Nye's letters are also to be read in the preamble.

The Deputy Commissioner recommends that Mr. S. Narayana Rao may be given a special grade. It is perhaps unnecessary to take up this question now.

P.W.D. I

Q

Nye CSM 12/5

Mr Nye has been shown this report - He has only one verbal amendment to propose on page 4 (x)

nee 13/5

Leave Member

Dewan

Not possible, through Govt secy

nee 10/5

RR 6/5/30.

CSM 12/5

Yth ack for H.Hs approval

Hon Secy

14-5-30

4636 10/5

OFFICE OF THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL
10 MAY 1930
No. 4636

WD 066—GPB—80,000—26-7-29

3855

DEWAN'S OFFICE
App. F. 1130-2]
4748

General and Revenue Secretariat | File No. | of 192

Serial No.

Original Subject to III Mtg of Council by the Envoy.
Chief Secy
for submission to Dewan 1.5.30

Copy of Letter No. C.C. 20/29-30 dated 1st May 1930 from the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District, submitting self-narrative report on the K.G.F. strike in April 1930.

CHIEF SECRETARY, 3 MAY 1930

10867 3/5

Submitted for perusal.

Dewan
3/5

(If approved, a brief review will be put up)
Dewan &
Members of Cl.

Dewan
6/5/30

Yes - The appreciation of the services of the officers concerned & more particularly of the D.C. maybe placed on record.

CSJ
7/5

0379 8/5

JM
9-5-30

Dewan 12/5

Note—Contn. Sheet

Extract from the Proceedings of the 857th *Meeting of the Council of His Highness the Maharaja, held at Bangalore on the* 16th May 1930.

82. Subject. - Clause v of the schedule.

Draft Government Order revising the narrative report submitted by the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar, regarding the recent strike of labourers on Kolar Gold Field.

ORDER OF THE COUNCIL.

May be approved.

(Sd.) Mirza M. Ismail,

DEWAN OF MYSORE.

DEWAN'S OFFICE.
20 MAY 1930
Leg 03

Subs with a D.O.N
Dewan) 19/5

"EXTRACT"

20-5-30

Chief Secretary to Government.

WD 1471—GPB—2,000—1-3-21.

Submitted to His Highness.

The Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District, has submitted a narrative report regarding the events connected with the recent strike of labourers on the Kolar Gold Field.

2. The accompanying draft of a Government Order reviewing the above report, and placing on record the appreciation of Government of the services rendered by the Deputy Commissioner and other officers of Government was considered in Council on the 16th instant and agreed to. It may be graciously approved.

A

Page 3 of Office Notes

Mirza M. Ismail

DEWAN.

Bangalore,
21st May 1930.

Record of Cases submitted for the Orders of His Highness the Maharaja.

Subject.

Draft order reviewing the narrative report of events connected with the recent strike of labourers on the Kolar Gold Field.

with Do letter no 135
517

Order.

~~KRM~~
25/5/30

D.O. No.135
2 Ifile No 517

The Palace,
Mysore, 22nd May 1930

My dear Mirza,

In returning herewith your file No.522 of the 21st May last containing the draft Government Order reviewing the Deputy Commissioner's report on the events connected with the recent strike at Kolar Gold Fields, may I make two suggestions?

These are, first, that in the lists of persons injured, it might perhaps be better to put the Policemen first, since it was, I presume, only after they had been injured that firing was opened on the crowd.

The second suggestion is that, in printing the Deputy Commissioner's report, it might perhaps be wise to omit the statement on page 5 that it was at the instance of Messrs. John Taylor and Sons' Committee that orders were issued under Sections 39 and 45 of the Mysore Police Regulation.

It is possible, however, that the latter fact may appear from the letters from the Committee which

(Necessary Corrections giving effect to these suggestions are indicated in pencil in the copy of Report appended)

it is proposed to print. These are not in the file which has been submitted for perusal of His Highness the Maharajā.

Yours sincerely,

Vide 71 K

General and Revenue
Secretariat

C 303

Draft order reviewing the narrative report of events connected with the recent strike of labourers on the Kolar Gold Fields.

(*)

31. All urgent or confidential files returned with His Highness' orders may in the absence of instructions or indications to the contrary, be ordinarily circulated to the Members of Council for perusal after the issue of orders.

33. The Secretaries concerned should see that orders in the cases referred to above are issued at once and that the files are returned immediately after to the Chief Secretary for circulation to the Members.

34. In all other cases, the files will first be circulated to the Members of Council at Headquarters and then sent to the Secretariat concerned for the issue of orders.

Circulated to Members of Council for perusal of His Highness' orders before/after* issue of orders. (*Vide* Rules 31, 33 and 34 of the Subsidiary Rules for the conduct of business of Council in the Manual of Council Rules and Procedure.) With Private Secy's Do. No. 1359 22/26 May 1930.

Chief Secretary to Government.

Through the Secretary to Government,

.....Department.

2247
30/5

FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL. 30/5/30

SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL (on tour)

11652
30/5

THIRD MEMBER OF COUNCIL. 31.5.30

NOTE.—Contn. sheet.

E233

Please put up clean print
31/5

Serial No.

Narrative Report 4:K.G.7. Stnte.

Proof copy of the G.O. incorporating the suggestions made by Sir C. Todhunter, is submd

(Cpl 2/6/30)

Issued

Subd for perusal before issue

It is not perhaps necessary to place the order at the disposal of the Press. A copy will be sent to the Resident

Dewan) 3/6

Sent to Press

4-6-30

(Issued) 5/6.

Submitted to Secs. Law Dept.

(Cpl 11/6/30)

Sno. Thanks

DEWAN'S OFFICE. 4 JUN 1930 5129

CHIEF SECRETARY. 2 JUNE 1930

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT.

D.O. No:C.C.20/29-30.
Encs.Two.

Dated, Kolar, the 2nd April *193* 0.

Filed 28/2.4.30

Dear Mr. Singaravelu,

I send enclosed for the information of the Dewan, copy of Confidential D.O.letter No:75/29-30 dated 1st April 1930, from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Field and its enclosure regarding a notice of an alleged - call to strike on 8th April on the Kolar Gold Field. I am proceeding to Oorgaum this afternoon and shall write to you again.

Yours sincerely,

To

T. Singaravelu Mudaliar, Esq., B.A., B.L.,
Private Secretary to theDewan of Mysore,
Bangalore.
(Camp) Hoskote.

Confidential D.O. No:C.C.75/29-30 dated 1st April 1930 from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Field, to the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

I enclose herewith a copy of the transaation of an anonymous leaflet affixed to a rock in the Oorgaum Cooly lines. It was brought to me by one of my detective officers this morning at 11 A.M.

The leaflet refers to the registration that is being carried on by Mr. Arthur Powne Jones and his staff. As you are aware this registration was thought of and introduced after the Workmen's Compensation Regulation was brought into force. The primary object thereof seems be to ensure the employment of men who are physically fit and to prevent the employment of bad characters.

I showed the leaflet to Mr. Crowle, Superintendent of the Oorgaum Mine and Col. Benn White who takes over charge of the Mine to-morrow as the former is going to England on leave. Mr. Nye has gone to Bangalore and I will have a talk with him tomorrow on his return. Mr. Jones saw me and we had a long talk. He told me that he has already registered 2,000 underground coolies of all the Mines and that he was still at it. He also said that there was no organised protest against his registry and even the few that raised an objection subsided when they were told that no harm was meant to them.

The threatened strike is to come off on the 8th instant. I doubt these ringleaders succeed in inducing the workmen to do so. It is unlikely that 8th would be chosen as the pay day falls on the 11th instant. I have arranged for the collection of information in the lines and shall report developments, if any.

"Copy"

Copy of the anonymous potice found to have been affixed to a rock in the Oorgaum Cooly lines this morning.

Translation from Tamil.

"Notice to Mining coolies, hand jumpers, mud coolies and surface work coolies.

We have been working for the last 50,30,20,15 and 10 years. Have you heard of or seen any wonder of this sort?

You must all know now that all mud coolies and hand jumpers have given their thumb impressions as also all the coolies working under contractors. We can't help it because those that have given them have had no sense.

The Mining coolies of Marikuppam, Champion, Nundydrug and Balaghat say that they would give their impressions after the oorgaum Mine coolies do so.

One man who had given impressions at Balaghat Mine, died and ther the deceased's wife demanded money the Company told her -"see your husband gave his thumb impression for Rs.1,000/- and he is due to us Rs.1,000/-. Why should he have signed? Did we ask him to sign and so forth? The Companies threaten us like this.

On the 7th April 1930 the Company are going to going to ask all of us to sign and give thumb impressions. No body should sign. Al must refuse.

The workmen of all the five Mines should take rice and should stop away from work on the 8th. No body should go to work. It will be a great mistake should they do so. In the Committee some big man should talk. If any one goes to work he will reap the consequences."

"Copy"

D. O.

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT.

Dated, Kolar, the 3rd April *1930.*

My dear Sir Gravely,

I send enclosed Copy of my letter of this date to Mr. Rama Rao re Labour Situation in Kolar G.F.

Yours sincerely,

Encld

4.4.30

D. O. No. C.C.20/29-30
Enc :

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT.

Dated, Kolar, the 3rd April *19*30.

Dear Mr. Rama Rao,

I hope you are in receipt of my letter No:C.C.20/29-30 dated 2nd April 1930 regarding some discontent among the labourers on the Kolar Gold Field. As stated in it, I went to Oorgaum yesterday. While I was in the office of the Chief Inspector of Mines -- waiting for Mr. Bocquet who was in the J.P's Court, some coolies and maistries came apparently to see Mr. Bocquet. I called through his Assistant Mr. Doraiswami Iyer, the principal person among them and asked him why they had come. He said that they were being required to give their finger impressions in the Oorgaum Mine office and that they did not know why this was required and stated that they had come to find out whether this was unobjectionable and whether they might give their finger impressions and in any case why 16 signatures --- (~~finger~~ impressions) were asked of them. I told them that I understood from the Mining Authorities that the finger prints were merely taken for purposes of identification and that there was no legal -- significance in the finger impressions taken and that the contents of the paper on which they gave the impressions would be clearly explained to them by the officers at the Mine office and that if any intelligent person among them found anything objectionable in the contents of the paper to which they were asked to set their finger impressions, the Mining officers would certainly remove such objectionable matter and that I would also speak to the Mining Authorities in the matter. I -- advised them to go back to the Mine office. They went away.

I immediately phoned up Mr. Nye and gave him this information. I advised him further that I had sent these men to the Mine offic and that it would be useful if he and I could go ~~xxx~~ there and with the Superintendent of the explain to the people the contents of the paper on which the finger impressions were being taken and the purpose of the finger impression. He suggested however that as the Superintenden of Mine Mr. Crowle was leaving for England that afternoon and the acting Superintendent Col. Benn White would have gone to Bowringpet with Mr. Crowl

there was no necessity for us to go to the Mine office. He stated also that he considered the objection frivolous and that only very few people were taking objection and that their objection might be ignored and that it was not important enough for me to go and explain to the people at the Mine office and that we might leave it to the officials of the Mine. He stated further a meeting of -- Messrs: John Taylor & Sons' Committee had been called for 7 P.M. yesterday and that if I could stay on the Kolar Gold Field till then, the Committee would be grateful for my presence at the meeting. He further stated that all the officers were busy yesterday being mail day, and that I might decide whether anything further was necessary, after the discussion at the meeting.

Meantime, I learnt from Mr. Doraiswami Iyer that he had overheard on the 1st April (evening) when he was walking home, a conversation from some contractors that some coolies whom they had recruited in Malabar and brought to the Field, had left refusing to submit to the formalities of registration by the Mining authorities, and they (the contractors) had thus been put to loss and they wanted to appeal to the"authorities" in the matter. He told me also that yesterday morning when he had gone underground on duty, some coolies asked him why they were being asked to give finger impressions.

I went to the meeting at 7 P.M. Mr. Nye, the Chairman said that the Committee had talked over the matter, that they did not believe that there was any trouble ahead and that the notice (copy sent by me yesterday) did not appear from their information to be one for serious thought, as there had so far been no trouble about registration. He then asked me whether I considered any action necessary. I told them that I have, since arriving on the Field at 3 P.M. found clear evidence of discontent among labour about the finger impressions, whether due to ignorance, prejudice or sentiment or lack of publicity about its object and the contents of the sheet of paper on which they were taken and that if the discontent was left there, it would give scope to mischief mongers to "mislead" the coolies and that it was necessary for the employers to take "the bull by the horns" and

and "lead" the coolies on right lines.

The committee agreed to take active steps to dispel any wrong impressions.

Next Mr. Nye asked me whether there was anything objectionable in the method of registration adopted by the Companies. I asked them to explain to me their method. Then Mr. Nye replied that up to 1st January 1930, the Mining Companies had been taking the finger impressions of all new coolies according to Bertillon system and also information about their parents, age, caste and native village and that since 1st January 1930, they have instituted medical examination for all coolies in view of the Commitments under the Workmen's Compensation Regulation. I then asked for the forms in use before 1st January 1930 and since 1st January 1930. I noticed that prior to 1st January 1930, finger impressions were taken only when any cooly was convicted for theft and not on date of entry into service and that, naturally, coolies would resent ~~the~~ an extension to all of them of a system which had been in force, only for criminals prior to 1st January. One Superintendent interposed that all coolies working in the Mill house and other important places had been so registered even prior to 1st January and another said that in his Mine, all coolies had given their finger impressions for the last 2 years. But as a general proposition, it was agreed that prior to 1st January, finger prints were taken only for convicts and for coolies employed in specially important places. Mr. Nye (Chairman) -- narrowed down the question to one of law and asked me whether I had any legal objection to their taking finger prints of their labourers. I replied that, from that narrow stand point, all I could say was that I had no power in ~~land~~ Law to prohibit or object to the finger impressions normally and that the Government or I would think of prohibiting it, only if and when public safety &c., demanded such a course. Short of such an emergency, and even if the coolies raised a question of sentiment, I could only advise them (Committee) in a friendly spirit.

Mr. Nye again said that the system of registration had been introduced after mature consideration to keep track of labour and -- identify coolies who sometimes went from one Mine to another in spite of dismissal, that the taking of 16 finger prints (once of the central three fingers of each hand (plain) and again of all the ten fingers rolled

is the only efficient system of identification known, and that as the Committee had no information that the system had caused discontent and as a large number i.e., 7,000 had already given their finger prints, and as there was nothing illegal in it, according to me, they would leave it at that.

I took objection to this complacent view of the situation, reminded the Committee of what I had said already about discontent among some contractors for which the reliable testimony of a responsible officer (I did not name him) and among coolies for the existence of which I had personal testimony the moment I reached Oorgaum expressed surprise that in spite of the large staff (Sanitary Overseers and watch establishment and foremen) they had, they were still unaware of the existence of discontent and that it was disconcerting to notice that the Mines staff had not kept the Superintendents informed of the feeling, and that the very fact that the men went to the Chief Inspector's office to complain and did not complain to the Mine Superintendent showed a defect in organisation.

The Committee again agreed to take active steps to dispel misapprehensions, if any and to arrange that a responsible officer was present when finger prints were taken.

Mr. Nye again asked me whether, in the light of my information, I wanted anything more done. I consulted the Superintendent of Police who was present with me and said that nothing more was necessary immediately.

THe discussion again turned on the advisability of taking finger prints. I was asked whether I advised the cessation of it. I said I had no materials yet to advise on that point as I had refrained from following up my enquiries in view of Mr. Nye's request over the phone. One Superintendent observed that the finger print registration had been in force in the Burma Corporation for some years and that the coolies had accepted it. I reminded the Committee that this was a fallacious argument. In the first place what obtained at one place could not be enforced at another without reference to local conditions, and -- secondly because a thing was possible 20 years ago, it was not necessarily possible even now. I told them that even though some people would enlist even

under the most stringent regulations, because of dire poverty or when starvation was the only alternative, sentiment told in the majority of cases and a single newspaper article in a Madras Tamil Newspaper that South Africa is being re-enacted on the Kolar Gold Field in the enforcement of finger prints would set up labour against the system, and that the South African parallel and the association of finger prints with criminal investigation and criminal tribe registration might, any moment, create a new situation on the Field.

I pointed out also that if such a situation developed, signatures in respect of literates might have to be accepted in place of finger prints, and the possibility of photographs for identificatior will have to be explored. I pointed out also that as large employers of labour, they should remember that the Indian and even the cooly was getting to be "class-conscious" and "nation-conscious" and that labour demanded greater consideration to its sentiment now than in the past.

I urged also that finger print registration might be given up, at a suitable opportunity, in respect of certified maistries and blasters and others who take out certificates from the Chief Inspector of Mines after examination as they are bornean his register and have given their thumb impression in his office.

The Committee thanked me for the suggestions and promised to consider them if and when need arose. They expressed themselves grateful for the further information I had givenand said they would also feel grateful for any information which the Superintendent of Police passed on to them. The Superintendent had passed on information in this instance as soon as he got it and he and I assured the Committee that we would always keep them informed as we were all anxious to secure peace and quiet on the Field.

I told the Committee further that I had hastened to the Field as I was anxious that the discontent, if any, should be nipped in the bud, particularly because I was proceeding on leave from the 5th ~~March~~ April.

Today at about 12.30 P.M. I received the enclosed telephone

message that 400 men stayed away from work in the Oorgaum Mine This will have opened up the mind of the Committee and reused them from their complacency. I do not, however, expect any further development.

Labour is contented, generally, on the Field and as soon as the necessary explaination in respect of registration is given the disquiet will die out.

I shall go to the Field again, if need arises and shall give Mr. Narayanaswami Iyengar full information before leaving.

Yours sincerely,

To

N. Rama Rao, Esq., B.A., B.L.,
Secretary to Government of Mysore,
Development Department, Bangalore.

TRANSLATION OF A TAMIL NOTICE FOUND IN THE OOREGUM MINE LINES.

"GOD IS GREAT"

To

The Hon'ble and Affectionate well-to-do
Learned Public.

The humble request of a talkative friend.

Stuff coolies, who have given Finger impressions and who have not given, and all the Company coolies should stay away tomorrow. If not we will catch you or beat you. If we become angry we will pounce or read getting hold of papers. "Must stay away", "Must stay away". If not - mind you, we have allowed our hair to grow. Don't be obstinate. Don't, Don't, if you persist we will remove you, all these is joke. The writer of this is Danda Sothu Dadi Raman.

----: o :----

"Don't Think"

The Honorable and Affectionate Well-Loved
Learned Public.

The humble request of a talkative friend.

[illegible] condition, who have given Finger Impressions and [illegible]
[illegible] Rivers, and all the Company condition should stay away
[illegible]. If not we will catch you or beat you. It is bec
[illegible] we will pounce on read getting hold of [illegible]. "Inst
[illegible] away? "Just obey", If not - mind you, we have
[illegible]ed our limit to stop. Don't be obstinate. Don't, be
if you persist we will remove you, all those je[illegible]. The
either or this Is Danis Potun Dadi Jaman.

[illegible]

(Camp) Oorgaum,
4th April 1930.

D.O.

My Dear Rama Rao,

I hope you are in receipt of my letter C.C.20/29-30 of this date written from Kolar.

I came to Oorgaum at 2 p.m. About 1000 men are on strike in Nundydroog and Ooregum Mines. I send enclosed copy of a notice found in Ooregum Mines this day.

But the Companies have revised their plan of registration and excused this day finger prints for all Company employees already in service. They have also extended the service gratuity scheme newly to Contractors' coolies and insist on finger prints in respect of those who want this concession of gratuity.

They have also agreed to return the finger impressions of such Contractors' coolies as want them back. I send enclosed a copy of the notice embodying the decisions.

Tamil posters explaining this are being printed and will be circulated this evening. Menwhile the Superintendents of the Mines have explained this to the men.

Both Mines will, it is hoped, resume normal working tomorrow.

Necessary police arrangements have been made.

Mr. Bocquet and I are working in close consultation and Mr. Bocquet was also present at the meeting on 2-4-30. and helped me in the exposition of the case.

Yours sincerely,

Copy & P.S. to Dewan with Compliments

(Name of Company)

Notice.

Registration under the Central Labour Registration Scheme will be modified from this day in the undermentioned respects:-

Company Labour.- Men whose names are now on the books will not be required to give their finger prints. They will only be called upon to record their names and short particulars against which a ticket (disc) will be issued.

New men who are engaged after to-day will be required to give their finger prints as well as to record their names with short particulars against which a ticket (disc) will be issued.

Contractors' Labour.- Men whose names are now on their respective Contractors' books will be given the benefit of the same service gratuity as is given to Company labour subject to the same conditions and provided that they give their finger prints and record their names and short particulars against which a ticket (disc) will be issued.

Men who have already given their finger prints may have them returned if they wish but the right to participate in the service gratuity scheme will not be extended to them.

New men who are engaged after this date will be required to give their finger prints as well as to record their names with short particulars against which a ticket (disc) will be issued.

April. 4. 1950.

Superintendent.

Forbmi Ted

It is 10/30 now. May this be sent tomorrow morning.

6/4

6.4.30

Here is phone Connection here. But it is for ~~ode~~ Confidential Whether this message may be transmitted by phone.

Express Raj

Depcom

Oorgaum

Please wire situation for Dewans information If you feel the slightest need for more Police or Military Dewan wants you not to hesitate to ask for them

Desec

Dewan's Office, Camp Closepet.

Urgent

With S.C. K.G.Y.

Telegram

Please wire status for
Jawan enforcement - Dy. ~~Com~~ you for me
eligibility need for more
Posts or Mukhias ~~required~~ ;
~~Shall book for Com~~ Jawan work
not to hesitate-
Yr book for Mem - Prakash Singh

POSTS TELEGRAPHS.

NOTICE.

This form must accompany any inquiry made respecting this Telegram.

Charges to pay

Rs. | As.

Office Stamp.

CLOSEPET RAPR30

Handed in at (Office of Origin.)	Date.	Hour.	Minute.	Service Instructions.	Words.
Oorgaum	7	8	35	Ren	25

Recd. here at 11 H. 7

TO

Rcsec Closepet

All five mines on Strike today everything peaceful wrotten Chief secretary for assistance 200 Extra police arrived yesterday and fifth

Depcom

N.B.—The name of the Sender, if telegraphed, is written after the text.

Karim Bux Bros., Printers, Calcutta—232 (B-27)—9-6-27—60,000 Bks.

~~SECRET AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~C.S.20/29-30~~

(Camp) Oorgaum,
~~xxxx~~ 6th April
12 midnight.

My dear Madhava Rao,

I write to ~~confirm~~ confirm the following telephone message sent to you at 9.45 P.M. this night.

"Kindly arrange despatch early morning 100 more reserve Police. Absolutely necessary".

I have not been able to return any finger prints this evening as stated in my previous letter No:C.S.21/29-30 of this date to Mr. M. Rama Rao, copy of which I have sent to you also. The men have not come forward to take them. I have induced some contractors once again to try and bring them to-morrow morning to the respective Superintendents.

In the mean time information is incoming about the likelihood of the strike spreading to the other three Mines tomorrow morning. If this should happen, I shall have on my hands a situation in which the entire Kolar Gold Fields is employed and 18,000 labourers thrown out of work.

The situation will be unprecedented both in magnitude and complexity. The area to be controlled is very large, and the population heterogeneous. It is absolutely necessary for me to have a considerable accession to the Police force and ~~eventually~~ I may have to indent on the Mysore Lancers as well and to call out the Auxiliary force, enrolling them as Special Constables. I am moving very carefully and avoiding any precipitous action. Every effort is being made to avoid conflict and to bring about a perfectly peaceful settlement.

I hope it has been possible for you to despatch 100 more reserve Police by the morning's train. If this has ~~been~~ not been done I request that they may be sent on by ~~special~~ special buses at once. The Police Bus at Bangalore City may also be kindly sent for use here until the emergency is over. I am also indenting on the buses and lorries of the Mining Companies and otherwise locally available.

Kindly arrange to keep the Lancers (about 100) in readiness tomorrow to start by special train to Oorgaum, the moment I telegraph or telephone to you

V

(2)

I have already detained the Sheriff Bangalore for duty here without his utilising the summer vacation. I have asked the Kolar Sub Division Officer also to come here from to-morrow.

The situation will become difficult only if all the mines join to-morrow and if the strike of the whole Field ~~begins~~ goes on for sometime. Otherwise the situation will be perfectly under control. I shall telephone to you to-morrow morning about the ~~same~~ situation. I am sending this by Special Messenger ~~only~~ to keep the Government informed of the latest developments and in order that they may not feel that I am rushing things ~~unduly~~ at the last moment. Even now I am only hope that it will be possible to prevent the strike from extending to other mines but it is impossible to prophesy.

As I sign this letter I am informed that it is more than likely that the Strike will extend to all the mines tomorrow.

Yours sincerely,

Sd. A. V. Ramanathan,

To

E. Madhava Rao, Esq., B.A., B.L.,

Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore,

Bangalore.

"Copy"

Reserve men have come in two buses just now. Balance of strength required maybe sent from City or Police Training School.

Express State

Second Member of Council

B a n g a l o r e

I think it would be well to send some men say a hundred from Mysore Lancers to Gold Fields at once as we cannot be sure what developments may take place Inspector General may also be directed to proceed there at once

Dewan

Dewan's Office,
Camp Cloesepet, 7.4.1930.

Telephone messages exchanged between the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar (Camp) K.G.F. and the Chief Secretary to Government on 7th April 1930.

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10 A.M. From the D.C.Kolar to the Chief Secy.	1. Please send copy of my report to Dewan Saheb, Closepet. Private Secretary has asked for information.
" do.	2. Kindly despatch Lancers fully armed.
12 Noon. From the Chief Secy. to the D.C.Kolar.	3. The Second Member of Council and the I.G.P are proceeding to K.G.F. Will arrive there after 4 O'clock today. Please explain situation to them about the necessity for Military for military help. Meanwhile Lancers have been asked to be in readiness, if necessary. The I.G.P. is arranging for the Police buses.
3 P.M. From Dy. Comr. to Ch. Secy.	4. Your message ~~xx~~ received. Lancers indispensable. Situation will not wait. Please despatch at once. Mob is huge and may get unruly at any moment. Bad elements are - getting improvement.
	5. Situation very serious.
3 P.M. From Ch. Secy. to D. C.	6. Arrangements made to despatch 100 lancers with 30 horses. They will leave by train at 5 P.M. this evening.
5 50 P.M. Telegram from Dy. Comr. to Ch. Secy.	7. Second Member arrived. He agrees military must come.

7th April 1930.

10 P.M. From the D.C.Kolar to the Chief Secy.

Only 58 Lancers have arrived. Second Member desires despatch 100 more lancers early morning. Need very urgent.

10 P.M. From the Chief Secy. to the D.C. Kolar.

Received your message. 42 more Lancers are arriving by mail train to-night. Chief Commandant is arranging to send further re-inforcement of 100 lancers by morning train, tomorrow. I ~~xxxxxxx~~ trust this will do.

11 P.M. From the Chief Secy. to the D.C. Kolar.

It is not advisable to call up Auxiliary Force ~~xxxxxxx~~ even as special constables without the sanction of Government. As already intimated, reinforcements of Lancers have been arranged to meet your present requirements.

11-30. From the I.G.of Police to the Chief Secretary.

Please post Mr. H.V. Krishna Rao, as Assistant Superintendent of Police, specially for the present situation. Deputy Commissioner agrees.

Telegram dated 7th April 1930 from the Dewan of Mysore, Camp Closepet, to the Second Member of Council, Bangalore, Basavangudi.

.....

I think it would be well to send some men say a hundred from Mysore Lancers to Gold Fields at once as we cannot be sure what development may take place Inspector General may also be directed to proceed there at once.

Dewan.

.....

April 7, 1930.

Dear Mr. Singaram,

I have received your telephone message, in reply to two of mine, stating that the Dewan has communicated to the Second Member his wishes about the request of the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar, for Military help. Here is another letter received to-day from Mr. Ramanathan. Mr. Balasundaram Iyer and Mr. Hiriannaiya are going to the Kolar Gold Field this afternoon and will see if any more help (Military or other) is necessary. Already 200 men of the Reserve Police have gone to the Field.

According to standing orders, we have to communicate to the Residency any unusual occurrences eg., riots, floods etc., and "any matters of administrative importance." The Members of Council consider that it would be expedient to send the Residency an intimation of the trouble at Kolar and I am accordingly enclosing herewith the draft of a d.o. letter which it is proposed to send to Major Loch. If the Dewan approves of the draft, kindly intimate to me by telephone so that I might despatch the letter to Major Loch.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/- N. Madhava Rao.

Dewan's orders.

Letter to Secretary to Resident approved. I think it is quite necessary and desirable to send 100 Sowards to the Field. Their presence will have a wholesome effect on the labourers and it will show them that Government are not in sympathy with them and are determined to put down with a firm hand any outbreak of lawlessness. It will also strengthen our position in regard to the representation of the Mining Companies about the employment of the K.G.F. Aux. Force at such times.

Sd/- M.M.I.
7-4-30 8-20 p.m.

General and Revenue Secretariat.

Dated Bangalore, the 8th April 1930

My dear Ramanathan,

Late last night the Secretary to the Resident rang me up and told me that he had heard from the District Head Quarters that the I.D.F.battalion on the Field had been called up by you and he wanted to know that help, if any, was required from the British Military. I replied that, so far as we knew, the situation did not call for any such help and added that it was most unlikely that you could have called up the auxiliary force. In your letter of the 6th instant you spoke of the possibility of enrolling the members of the Force as special constables but we did not know that even this step had been actually taken.

The conversation with the Secretary to the Resident suggested that it might be as well to reassure you that further reenforcements asked for by you (100 more Lancers) were coming and that in case the services of the I.D.F. were to be actively employed, it would be best to intimate to Government beforehand, on account of the implications of such a step.

It was with this idea that I sent you (on my own responsibility let me add) the following message:-

"It is not advisible to call up auxiliary force even as special constables without the sanction of Government. As already intimated, reinforcements of Lancers have been arranged to meet your present requirements"

Yours sincerely,

Sd. N. Madhava Rao.

Chief Secretary to Government.

To

A.V.Ramanathan Esq.,B.A.,
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

Immediate & Confl

3

3988/C.B.

8th April 1930

Dear Col: Loch,

I am writing this to confirm the purport of our conversation a short while ago.

(1) It would be desirable for you to kindly go to the Kolar Gold Fields and see to the adequacy of the troops that have been sent there, their disposition, accommodation etc.

(2) Government would like that the Military should use as far as possible only lathis and not lances or rifles. This may be kindly mentioned to the Deputy Commissioner who will of course have perfect liberty to order the use of these latter weapons if he deems it necessary. When firing becomes necessary, the services of the Policemay be utilised rathan than the services of the Military. But here again the matter is left to the free discresion of the Deputy Commissioner.

(3) TheSecond Member of Council is going to the Kolar Gold Fields to-day and he would be obliged if you will meet him there this evening.

(4) Arrangements have been made for your accommodation at the Kolar Gold Fields, if it becomes necessary for you to stay there to night.

(5) It is understood that you have sent about 80 horses yesterday and are sending about 65 to-day. The question whether any more have to be sent may be decided by you after you see conditions for yourself.

Yours sincerely,

For perusal after issue

Dewan Hon'

Chief Secy +

Law Secy.

RR 8/4/30.

Mr 8/4

RR 8/4/30

Copy to the A.V. Roth Compts

This has been framed according to the instructions of the Second Member and despatched to the Private Secy to H.H. the Dewan

MM
8/4

(Express)

Mahsec

Fernhill

(Niligiris)

This	is	in	continuation
yesterday's	elegram	regarding	situation
Kolar	Gold	Field	There
was	a	scuffle	yesterday
between	some	mine	coolies

(P.T.O)

and	watchmen	Police	intervened
to	disperse	crowd	but
crowd	pelted	stones	and
police	had	to	open
fire	under	Magistrate's	orders

(P.T.O)

(3)

stop	Some	fifteen	coolies
injured	and	one	seriously
injured	sent	to	hospital
for	treatment	stop	This
incident	lasted	from	twelve

(P.T.O)

(4)

noon to 2 P.M.

stop No further

developments thereafter and

night passed off

quietly. stop One

(PTO)

again

also

Inspector

staying

General

there

Dewan

Confidential.

Letter No.C.2629/29 dated Camp Oorgaum the 8th April 1930 from the Inspector General of Police in Mysore to the Chief Secretary to Government, Bangalore.

I have the honour to state that after my arrival here with the Second Member of Council yesterday I was informed by the Deputy Commissioner that in the afternoon the coolies of the Mysore Mine marched in large numbers and tried to intimidate the employees of the Mining Watch Establishment from working and that when the Police tried to prevent them the coolies used violence pelting stones and throwing brickbats freely against the Police causing serious injuries to several Police Officers including Mr.Griffin, Assistant Superintendent, Special Reserve, Inspector Mr.Searle and Sub Inspector Sadasiva Rao and several other men. As all other means to disperse the crowd which had become quite unruly failed, the Special Magistrate who was in charge of the situation decided in consultation with the Superintendent of Police and the Munsiff Magistrate to open fire with the result that 44 persons were injured of whom two are reported to be in a serious condition. The mob dispersed thereafter and there was no galata afterwards though the night was one of great anxiety. Efficient Police arrangements were made for patrol in the night and every thing is peaceful now though we cannot say that anxiety is over. In my rounds this morning I gathered that the attitude of the coolies was peaceful. The injured persons are progressing and the District Madical Officer said that the condition of two patients gave cause for anxiety. The Military have arrived and this has had a salutary effect.

2. I have not yet received a report from the Deputy Commissioner and I shall send one as soon as it is received.

" C o p y "

D. O. C. C. 20/29-30.

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
KOLAR DISTRICT.
(Camp) Oorgaum,
Dated, ~~Kolar~~, the....8th....April.....193 0.

C.S. 3602

Dear Mr. Madhava Rao,

I send herewith a copy of the telephone messages exchanged between us to-day regarding the situation at the Kolar Gold Fields

I send also copy of a telegram sent & there has been despatched to H. H. the Maharaja & the Dewan as the shortest & the situation. I sent for the Inspectors today & told them I was ready to hear them. I have instructed Negotiations between the Supdt & the Representatives in Bowringpet To resume today.

Yours sincerely,

N. Madhava Rao, Esq., B.A., B.L.,
Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore,
Bangalore.

Telegram dated 7-4-1930 from H. Rikupchand & others of K.G.F., to His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, Fern Hill, Ootacamund.

"His Highness Mysore Maharaja , Fern Hill, Ootacamund.

Kolar Gold Field situation fire opened on labours at Marikuppam public alarmed none to represent property and labours grievances wants ideas local people afraid of Mining Regulation to interfere and submit labour's views to the Mining Companies to bring about harmonious settlement. Matter requires immediate attention. Some one has to mediate between the Companies and helpless innocent ignorant and illiterate - labourers to put an end to serious situation. Hence public pray depute competent person immediately to mediate.

H. Rikupchand,
Lazarus,
H.M.Haneef Khan,
Bhashyam, Photographer.

Note:-

The same copy to the Dewan,

Madura Maistri,
R. Muthuswami Iyer.

Telephone messages exchanged between the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar (Camp) K. G. F., and the Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore on the 8th April 1 9 3 0.

****

From the Chief Secretary to Government

It is not advisable to call up the Auxiliary force. Even as a special constable without the special sanction of the Government as already intimated the reinforcement of Lancers have been arranged and this should meet all your requirements.

12.20 A.M. From the Chief Secretary to Government.

Second Member arriving at K.G.F. this evening and may stay two or three days. Chief Commandant Col.Loch also proceeding there to look to Military arrangements. Please arrange for his accommodation and food to night.

1.10 P.M. From the Deputy Commissioner to the Chief Secretary.

Received your messages. I am making arrangements for the 2nd Member and the Chief Commandant. As regards the Auxiliary force I had to request the Col.Commandant to keep his force in readiness, as Lancers had not arrived and because of your first message and as the - situation was very serious. The force has not been used. Fire was opened by the Police 42 persons were injured, -- situation eased after about

2 hours. Second Member was given full details yesterday. I am sending detailed report to-day. Only two persons one man and one woman ~~were~~ are seriously injured. Others have slight injuries. This morning situation looked grave for an hour. It is now eased. The night passed off without incident.

3.30 P.M. From the Chief Secretary to Government. Please telephone if there have been any developments to day. I trust the present situation is satisfactory.

5.30 P.M. From the Deputy Commissioner to the Chief Secretary to Government. Situation in hand so far. I have arranged for 20 representatives of Balaghat Mine to present their case to the Superintendent. I was also present. The other Mines may follow suit.
Also to Private Secretary to the Dewan of Mysore, Closepet, and First Member of Council.

7.10 P.M. To the Chief Secretary to Government. Auxiliary force Commandant informed at 7.P.M. that present situation does not necessitate the force continuing to stand in aid of the Civil Magistrates.

****

8/4/32

Letter No.C.C.20/20-30/Enc.four dated (Camp) Oorgaum the 8th April 1930 from the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District to the Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore, Bangalore.

I have the honor to report for the information of the Government, in continuation of previous telephone messages confirmed already that all the Mines are now idle and all the Indian employees except office staff and watch establishment in the Mines have struck work from yesterday morning.

I had to make elaborate arrangements yesterday and protect all the five Mines with the Police force at my disposal as augmented on the previous days from the Provincial Reserve and Kolar District. The Special Magistrate in charge of the Mysore Mine area reported that the crowd in Mysore Mines timber yard was nasty but that he had managed to disperse them. When I went to the Mine, they were fairly quiet except for the wild talk of several irresponsible youths. After listening to them and inducing five persons who had given their finger impressions to take back their slips and destroy them, and after sending away the crowd, I returned to my Headquarter to be in touch with the entire area.

Meantime I had sent the Special Superintendent of Police and the Special Magistrate to watch a meeting of coolies at Robertsonpet and disperse them. This meeting was peacefully dispersed.

But when the officers toured the areaafterwards, they came across a violent crowd on which they had to open fire under circumstances which are given in the enclosed copies of the Special Magistrate's and Special Superintendent's preliminary report. On hearing of this and in view of the grossly insufficient nature of the force at my disposal, I had no alternative except to request the Colonel Commandant of the Auxiliary Force, Kolar Gold Field Detachment (after personal consultation with him) to keep his force available for helping the Civil Magistrates in dispersing unlawful assemblies, as the only military force available pending arrival of the Mysore Lancers in sufficient strength. I request a reference in this connection to Government Order No.J.2573-82/Pol. 145-14-2 dated 4th February 1916 laying down distinctly that there should be no hesitation on the part of Magistrates to secure the

assistance of volunteers (Now A.F.I.) in suitable emergencies. The present is an unprecedented emergency. All the Mines required to be protected and all the workers are idle. A large European population had to be protected, not to speak of the enormous value of the Mining properties and Government Electrical Stores. I had not yet received from you any intimation of despatch of troops as requested in my letter written on the midnight of 6th April 1930 and sent by special messenger and my telephone messages of the morning of 7th April 1930.

Though the Force was kept in readiness through the kind courtesy of the Commandant, I did not make use of it as the crowd which was fired on and whose attitude was uncertain for about two hours, dispersed quietly without any further hostile attempts thereafter seeing the steady re-inforcements of the Police.

I visited the spot immediately I got information after first arranging for the Auxiliary force mobilisation being put in hand by the Commandant. I found all that the Special Magistrate and Special Superintendent has reported to be correct. I found the Special Magistrate in possession of the situation, took a verbal report from him of the situation, got assured that all the wounded had gone to the Hospital, arranged for the further safeguard of the place by the watchmen themselves and moved the Policeforce to strategic points and relieved the Magistrate for a brief rest and for being present at his Headquarters to be ready for other calls as they might arise.

I then arranged for the patrol of the entire area.

By this time, the Second Member of Council and the Inspector General of Police arrived and I reported the details of the situation to them and the action taken by me and my officers. I then met Messrs.John Taylor & Sons Committee with the Second Member and settled details for the night, as the European and Anglo Indian population needed special protection.

I myself was out inspecting arrangements till 1 P.M. The Commandan of K.G.F. Battalion very kindly arranged patrols by some of his force in addition to the Police and Lancers Patrol.

I was wholly occupied with protective measures and the 2nd Member of Council yesterday. I visited the patients in the Hospital this day and conveyed to them my sympathy and grief in their suffering and promised my fullest help in their treatment in the Hospital.

Only one man and one woman are seriously injured the shot having been deposited apparently in the chest and lower intestines respectively. I have asked the District Medical Officer for a complete list and I shall send it tomorrow. Deeply as I deplore the occasion for shooting, I am emphatically of opinion that it was due to imperative necessity and that the firmness and courage of Mr.Vedavyasacharya and Mr. S. Narayana Rao and their associates at the pschyological moment has saved, so far, what would easily have developed into an extremely unmanageable and hopeless situation involving great loss ofproperty and of lives, by weaker handling or manifestation of hesitancy or fear.

I shall examine all the officers and also the injured persons and submit a more detailed report as soon as the situation is past anxiety.

As I have now adequate Military and Police resources at my disposal, I have informed the Commandant K.G.F. Battalion that the state of emergency does not necessitate his battalion to stand in aid of the Civil power. My grateful thanks and the thanksof the Government are due to Col. G. Benn White and the officers and men of the Battalion for their prompt and enthusiastic co-operation.

I send enclosed copies of my 2 communications to the Commandant of the K. G. F. Battalion.

" C o p y "

Copy of letter No. J-1 dated Champion Reefs, 8th April 1930 from the Special Magistrate, Kolar Gold Fields, to the District Magistrate, Kolar District, Camp Oorgaum.

I have the honour to report that yesterday, about noon, information reached me that there was a hostile crowd of strikers besieging the Watchmen's Lines to the east of the Mysore Hall and preventing the Watchmen from proceeding to work, by threats of imminent violence. I proceeded to the spot, with the Special Superintendent of Police and a small batch of Reserve men. The Munsiff Magistrate was with us. When we arrived on the scene, we found a fairly big crowd of the strikers, in front of the Lines actively preventing the Watchmen from coming out of the Lines for work. The mob was threatening violence; and some of them, who were carrying sticks, broken branches and pieces of rafters, were behaving and acting in a manner which was distinctly and, in the extreme menacing. It was an unlawful assembly. Our efforts to persuade them to disperse of their own accord, were of no avail, and were greeted with derision and defiance of authority. I commanded the unlawful assembly to disperse. The mob showed not the slightest inclination to disperse but became more violent and aggressive. I gave the order to the Special Superintendent of Police to disperse it by force. Ten Reserve men proceeded forward to clear the mob by means of lathies. The mob retaliated by beating them with sticks and hurling stones at us. The stone throwing was so continuous and intense and the missiles were of such big size that the Reserve men were hard pressed, some of them were seriously hurt and there was imminent danger of the crowd pressing its advantage and stoning us all to death. Along with us, at the time, there were, among others, Mr. Arthur Powne Jones of the Mines Watch Establishment and his Assistant Mr. J.A. Goepel. There was no choice except to open fire. The Special Superintendent of Police and the Munsiff Magistrate were also of the same opinion. The mob was warned that firing will be opened and that it will be effective. The warning had no effect

whatever and I gave the order to open fire. The Reserve men opened fire, using buckshot ammunition. The mob was dispersed. Reinforcements arrived later. I continued to be in charge of the situation till the District Magistrate arrived on the scene about 3 P.M. and relieved me.

About 15 Reserve men were injured during this incident; of them 5 have sustained rather serious hurt. Arrangements were made to give them the necessary medical assistance. As the situation here still demands my presence at the Mysore Mine, I have not been able to go to the Civil Hospital, Robertsonpet to verify the figures regarding the persons injured or alleged to be injured among the mob during the firing incident; but so far as I have information now, I learn that 44 persons in the mob have been injured, two of them a man and a woman - seriously.

Copy of letter dated 8th April 1930 from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Field, to the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District, Camp Oorgaum.

I have the honour to state that on leaving you yesterday with instructions to disperse the big crowd which was said to have gathered near the Circuit House, Robertsonpet yesterday morning, the Special Magistrate, Munsiff Magistrate and myself proceeded to the spot with some Reserve men and succeeded in persuading them to disperse it after some hours persuasion and warning.

We then went on a tour of inspection ~~to~~ in the Champion Reef and Mysore Mine areas to see how things were getting on. On receipt of information at the Mysore Mine that a crowd of 200 to 300 strikers had besieged the Watchmen's Lines to the east of the Mysore Hall and were threatening violence if the Watchmen went to work. We immediately proceeded with a bus load of Reserve men who are accompanying us and tried to persuade the mob to desist from their illegal action. The action of the men, some of whom had sticks, was menacing in the extreme and our persuasion for about an hour was of no use. About ten Reserve men who had only sticks in their hands were asked to clear them from the place but the crowd replied by beating with sticks and throwing stones which latter increased in a few minutes and we, i.e., the Special Magistrate, Munsiff Magistrate myself, Mr. Arthur Jones, Chief Officer of the Watch Establishment, his Assistant Mr. Gospel and the Reserve men were in imminent danger of being stoned to death. The stones pelted were of a very big size. In these circumstances there was no other alternative to opening fire and I was of opinion it should be done. The Special Magistrate in consultation with the Munsiff Magistrate gave the order to open fire. The Special Reserve opened fire with buckshot and the crowd dispersed. Reinforcements were then got and we left the place at about 3.30 P.M. 15 Reserve constables were injured, of whom five can be said to be rather serious. They were got treated and five of them are in-patients in the Robertsonpet Civil Hospital.

Forty four persons have so far gone to the Civl Hospital with injuries alleged to have been caused by the firing. Two of them, a man and a woman, have received serious injuries and the injuries of others may be said to be, more or less, minor ones.

Firing was absolutely necessary not only to maintain the authority of Government which was flouted in spite of patient advice and warning but to safeguard the lives of the Government Officers and men and the two European gentlemen and other persons, that were with us. The firing has, in my opinion, produced a very salutary effect on persons who were inclined to be violent and has stopped their activities.

"C o p y"

(Signed) A.V. RAMANATHAN.

"C o p y"

Chief Secretary to Government.

To

The Colonel Commandant,

Auxiliary Force,

Kolar Gold Field Battalion, Oorgaum.

Sir,

I have the honor to request you under Sections 129 and 130 of the Criminal Procedure Code to kindly make the force under you available in aid of the Civil Magistrates to disperse unlawful assemblies on the Kolar Gold Field.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Oorgaum, K.G.F.

7th April 1930.

Sd. A. V. Ramanathan

District Magistrate,
Kolar District.

" C o p y "

Oorgaum

April 8th 1930.

To The Officer Commanding,

The Kolar Gold Field Battalion,

Auxiliary Force, India.

From A. V. Ramanathan Esq.,

District Magistrate, Kolar District, Mysore State.

Memorandum.

I consider that the state of emergency now existing in the Kolar Gold Fields area does not necessitate your battalion continuing to stand to in aid of the Civil Power.

(i.e.7 P.M.) 8 Apr.30.

"Copy"

Sd.A.V.Ramanathan.

" C o p y "

DB.K.M.

9th April 1930.

4016/C.S.

Dear Sir,

I do not know if I made it very clear but, in case I did not, I am writing this to say that the Dewan, who has just returned from his tour, is meeting Mr.C.S.Kuppuswami Iyengar about the Davangere Tax tomorrow afternoon between 4 and 6 and will be obliged if you will kindly make it convenient to be present. He trusts that there will be no need for you to go back to K.G.F. The Dewan also asks me to tell you that he has received telegrams from some of the Labour leaders at K.G.F., from which it would appear that they are anxious to put an end to the present situation and resume work. He thinks that it may perhaps have a salutary effect if you could meet some of them and tell them that you have instructed the Deputy Commissioner to listen to their representations and use his good offices with the Mining authorities, who, it is believed, have been willing to deal with such matters in a reasonable and sympathetic manner. He,

however, leaves the matter entirely to your discretion.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd) N. Madhavarao

Rajamantrapravina
C.S. Balasundaram Iyer,B.A.,
Member of Council,
(Camp) Oorgaum.

POLICE DEPARTMENT.

No.

OFFICE OF THE
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE IN MYSORE.

Encs.

Dated, Bangalore, Camp Oorgaum 9-4-30 193

CHIEF SECRETARY, 10 APR. 1930

From

S. HIRIANNAIYA, Esq., M.A., B.L.,
Inspector-General of Police in Mysore,
Bangalore.

C 13624

To

DEWAN'S OFFICE. 1. APR. 1930 No. 4343.

N.Madhava Rao, Esq., B.A., B.L.,
Chief Secretary to Government, Bangalore.

Sir,

In continuation of this office letter No.C.2629/29 dated the 8th inst. I have the honour to invite reference to the letter of the Deputy Commissioner of Kolar Mr.Ramanathan (No.C.C.20/29-30 dated th 8th inst.) and its enclosure regarding the occurrences in the Mysore - Mine on Monday the 7th inst. I have nothing more to add except that fro what I have observed and ascertained I am satisfied that the firing was absolutely unavoidab and quite justified. I am also satisfied that the minimum amount of force ha been used. As stated by the Deputy Commissioner there has been an impro ment in the situation after the firing. We do not expect as far as coul be forseen any further breaches of the peace. The forces at the - disposal of the Deputy Commissioner are, I think, quite adequate. All necessary precautions have been taken, effective patrols of important ar have been arranged for and it is intended to continue precautions till normal conditions are restored. Both the officers and men of the - department have worked and have been working splendidly.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

Inspector General of Police

Dewan
Mr Lal Secy

(Copies sent to Members also)

Telephone Message.

(9-4-30 – 12.30 P.M)

From the Chief Secretary to Government.

To Colonel J.C.Loch,
Chief Commandant, Mysore State Troops, Oorgaum.

The Brigadier, Madras District, has come down to Bangalore and desires to go to Kolar Gold Fields to discuss in case the Mysore Government ever decide to ask for the co-operation of the K.G.F.Battalion with the local Civil Authority how such co-operation can best be rendered. As you know, Government of Mysore do not contemplate the possibility of asking for such co-operation except as a very remote contingency. But as the Brigadier has come down here and is keen about the scheme of co-operation being considered in the event of such co-operation being asked for at any future time, will you kindly meet the Brigadier when he comes to K. G. F. this afternoon and generally discuss the matter with him? It will be clearly understood that the discussions will be entirely informal and will not comit this Government to any course of action.

Please telephone acknowledgment of this message and submit a copy of this to the Second Member of Council for his information.

Col. Lock just phoned to me that he returned from the K.G.F. this afternoon & was meeting the Brigadier General tomorrow morning. I submit a draft of a letter which is proposed to be sent to him with the copy of the 3rd member

I have suggested to Col. Lock by phone that he may wait on the Dewan tomorrow morning before he meets the Brigadier General & take his further instructions.

RG
9/4/30

Dewan

Mr
9/4

VR
RG
8/4

The letter is issued.

Mrs
9/4.

RG
5/4/30

D.O.No. 12159/Eue one

GENERAL & REVENUE SECRETARIAT,

Dated Bangalore,....9th April 1930 ~~xxx~~

Dear Col.Loch,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your telephone message telling me that you have just returned from the Kolar Gold Fields, that the situation there is perfectly normal at present though vigilant attention would be called for from Thursday to Sunday and that if necessary you would go back and stay during this period in the K.G.F.

Regarding your interview to-morrow morning with the Brigadier-General, Madras District, I am to enclose herewith a copy of a telephone message sent to you this morning. You will see therefrom that Government have always maintained the view that the duty of safeguarding every interest in the K.G.F. area rests with Government and that they have no intention of ever seeking the aid of the K.G.F.Battalion. I understood you to say that the Brigadier-General's visit was in connection with the safeguarding of the Battalion's armoury of which there are six. With reference to this the duty of safeguarding even these armouries rests on the Government though of course it is open to the Battalion to take such additional steps as they may deem fit for the protection of their armoury.

With these general observations, I am to suggest that you might confine yourself during the ensuing interview to giving and receiving information without committing yourself to any definite course of action.

Yours sincerely,

9/4/30

Col.J.C.Loch, C.B.E.,
Chief Commandant,
Mysore State Troops.

th April 1930 xx

Dear Col.Loch,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your telephone message telling me that you have just returned from the Kolar Gold Fields, that the situation there is perfectly normal at present though vigilant attention would be called for from Thursday to Sunday and that if necessary you would go back and stay during the period in the K.G.F.

Regarding your interview to-morrow morning with the Brigadier General, Madras District, I am to enclose herewith a copy of a telephone message sent to you this morning. You will see therefrom that Government have always maintained the view that the duty of safeguarding every interest in the K.G.F. area rests with Government and that they have ~~absolutely~~ no intention of ever seeking the aid of the K.G.F. Battalion. I understood you to say that the Brigadious General's visit was in connection with the safeguarding of the Battalion's armoury of which there are six. With reference to this the duty of safeguarding even these armouries rests on the Government though of course it is open to the battalion to take such additional steps that they may deem fit for the protection of their armoury.

With these general observations, I am to suggest that you might confine yourself during the ensuing interview to giving any information and receiving ~~required by the Brigadious General and receiving any suggestions he may have to make without in any way committing yourself and the Government any definite course of action.~~ I can suggest the desirability of your meeting the Dewan to-morrow morning and taking his instructions before you meet the Brigadious General.

Yours sincerely,

DSP and Dewan for
private information.

Chief

R
5/4/30

Rajamantrapravina,
C. S. BALASUNDARAM IYER,
Member of Council.

Camp, Oorgaum,
9th April 1930.
3 P.M.

My dear Sir Mirza,

I came here last evening as suggested by you to Mr. Madhava Rao. There has been no further trouble since the day before yesterday's firing and everything is fairly quiet. This morning the Lancers were taken in parade through the various localities so as to create an impression among the people concerned. I saw them at various points and there was no sign of any hostility or ill-feeling on the part of the people on route. Attempts are being made to get at the labourers and to get them to make a list of the points about which they feel aggrieved. Panchayets for this purpose have been held by two Mines and one is being held in a third. As regards the ostensible trouble of finger impression forms, the Members of the Mining Board met me and the Deputy Commissioner and others,

the day before yesterday and agreed to have these forms returned to whoever wanted them by to-morrow noon and in case people did not want them back to hand them over to the Deputy Commissioner for destruction. Notices to this effect have been printed and circulated. Friday and Saturday happen to be the pay days and we have to see how they will pass off. Personally I do not think there will be any trouble though it may take a few days more for the men to resume their work. I shall stay here two or three days more and watch the situation.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

S Balasundaram

Telegrams: "SPELMAG" Phone No. "56, CHAMPION

C.C.21/29-30.Enc.One.

COMMISSIONER OF WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION,
and the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.
Kolar District.

No. APR. 1930

Oorgaum,
~~CHAMPION REEFS,~~
K. G. F.

Dated....9th...April.....*1930*

Dear Mr. Madhava Rao,

I send herewith copies of the telephone messages exchanged between us to-day regarding the situation at the Kolar Gold Fields.

Yours sincerely,

To

N. Madhava Rao, Esq., B.A., B.L.,
Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore,
Bangalore.

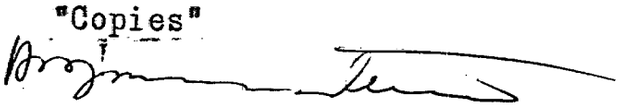
Telephone messages exchanged between the Deputy Commissioner Kolar District (Camp) K.G.F. and the Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore, on 9th Apr.30.

****

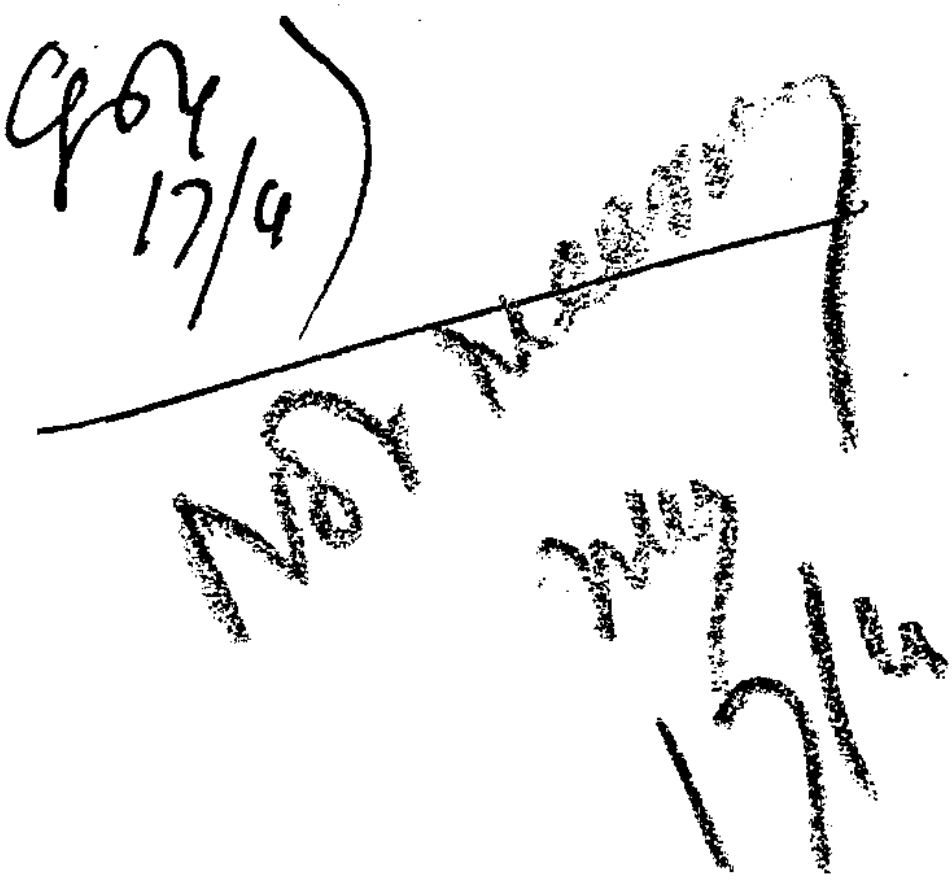
7 A.M.	To the Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore and the Private Secretary to the Dewan of Mysore.	Night passed off quiet.
10.40 A.M.	To the Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore, from the Deputy Commissioner.	Advance asked for is urgently needed. Second Member desires me to request you to instruct Comptroller to wire to the Amildar, Bowringpet to pay me advance of Rs.2,000/- and to confirm to me by telephone.
1-15 P.M.	From the Chief Secretary to Government to Col.Loch Chief Commandant, Mysore State Troops, Camp K.G.F.	The Brigadier, Madras District has come back to Bangalore. He desires to go to K.G.F. to discuss in case the Mysore Government ever desire to ask for the co-operation of the K.G.F. Battalion with the Local Civil Authorities. How such co-operation can be rendered. As you know, Government of Mysore do not contemplate the possibility of asking for such co-operation except as a very remote contingency but as a Brigadier General has come down here and is keen about the scheme of co-operation being asked for at any future time, will you kindly meet the Brigadier when he comes to K.G.F. this afternoon and generally discuss the matter with him. It is clearly understood that the discussion may be entirely informal and will not commit the Government in any course of action. Please telephone acknowledgement of this message and submit a copy of this to the Second Member of Council for his information.
2 P.M.	To the Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore, from the Deputy Commissioner.	Your message to Col.Loch. I have submitted it to 2nd Member. Col.Loch has left K.G.F. and is due again tomorrow evening. Kindly telephone to Col.Loch at Bangalore to come to K.G.F. tomorrow and discuss the matter with Brigadier General. I shall see the Brigadier General this evening and inform him so.
2 P.M.	To the Chief Secretary to Government and the Private Secretary to the Dewan.	Situation is improving. Mysore Mine Representatives met the Superintendent. Good will established. Negotiations proceeding.
4.15 P.M.	From the Chief Secretary to the Governmentto the Deputy C	

Commissioner, Kolar, Camp K.G.F.	Advance of Rs.2,000/- sanctioned. Comptroller has issued instructions to the Bowringpet Treasury by wire. Question of treating the expenditure as final under consideration.

"Copies"



May be submd to
the other Members
if deemed necessary



G.R.S. III—31

CP-3652

Routine Notes.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

From the Dy. Com^r Kolar
No. C.C. 21 d. 10.4.30
Forwards a list
of persons admitted
to the Civil Hospital
on account of injuries
sustained in connection
with the Strike.

The list gives the
names of 48 coolies
and 6 policemen

Submitted for perusal
C.P.A.
12/4/30

12 discharged
Two (2 & 4 condition low)

Secn Member / 12/4
Dir / Secy /

Secy
15/4

77 80
14/4

N.B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips, the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form

In all future correspondence please quote this No. D.C. 21/29-30 Encl.

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT.

(Camp) Oorgaum,
Dated xxxxx the 10th April 19 30

CB 3653

FROM

A. V. RAMANATHAN, ESQ., B.A.,
Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

To

N. MADHAVA RAO, ESQ., B.A., B.L.,
Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore,
Bangalore.

SIR,

In continuation of my letter No:D.C.20/29-30 dated 8th April 1930, I send enclosed for the information of Government copy of the list received with the Kolar Gold Field District Medical Officer's No:722/ dated 9th April 1930, showing the names of the forty-nine persons admitted to the Civil Hospital xxxxxx up to the 9th April 1930 on account of the injuries sustained in connection with the opening of the fire on the mob at Marikuppam on 7th April 1930.

by Law Secy
record Member

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

Statement showing the details of persons admitted to the civil hospital, K.G.F., Robertsonpet, who were injured at the instance of the strike at Marikuppam.

Date.	Name of injured person.	Age.	Father's name.	Nature of injuries.	Remarks.
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
			LOCAL BODIES.		
7-4-30.	1. Yesudasan.	43.	Nagan.	Punctured wound about the size of a pea situated at the upper part of the arm. 2. Lacerated wound situated at the upper part of the left leg.	Discharged.
	2. Muniamma.	25.	Wife of Munisamy.	A punctured wound on the left lumbar region of the abdomen.	Condition low.
	3. Arokiasamy.	30.	Not known.	A punctured wound situated at the upper third of the left gluteal region.	
	4. B.Munisamy.	30.	Chinnappan.	A punctured wound situated at the right side of the leg about 6" above the ankle;on the outer side. Shot if felt 8" above the ankle.	
	5. Chinnappan.	20.	Masalamoney.	A punctured wound on the left side of the back 6" below the angle of the left axilla.	
	6. Chinnappian.	20.	Munian.	A punctured wound situated at the posterior aspect of the left thigh about 4" above the left knee.	
	7. Pollam.	18.	Thamman.	A punctured wound on the left popliteal surface; shot is felt on the medial side of the left knee.	
	8. Ponnasamy.	45.	Notknown.	A punctured wound at the ovular aspect of the left fore-arm and the shot felt 2" from the wound.	
	dagiri Kondadu.	35.	Rapiah.	A punctured wound on the right cheek. 2. Punctured wound on the posterior side of the right thigh. 3. A punctured wound on the left leg with a shot in it.	
	10. Vanlombody Kandasamy.	30.	Kuppan.	A punctured wound on the inner side of the right leg.	
	11. Pandakarunyam.	45.	Jagariah.	A punctured wound on the dOrsal aspect of the left metacarpo phalangeal joint of the index finger. 2. A punctured wound situated at the right scapular of the back, shot is felt 3. A punctured wound on the outer side of the right elbow, shot is felt.	
	12. Groshen.	31.	Munian.	A punctured wound on the inner side of the right leg at its middle	

13. Samual	16. Kenavelu.	Abrasion on the outer side of the right leg.	Discharged on 7-6-30.
14. Nanaspaul Gurich.	55. Kondadu.	A punctured wound on the left axilla.	
15. Natesan.	22. Arjunam.	A punctured wound on the ~~left~~ inferior angle of the right scapula and the shot is felt in.	
16. Aiyakannan.	35. Chinnappian.	A punctured wound on the ~~left~~ left leg. 2. Abrasion about the size of a pea below No.1 injury. 3. punctured wound on the outer surface of the left leg.	
17. D.Masalamoney.	26. David.	A punctured wound on the right fore-arm; a shot is felt. 2. A punctured wound on the right arm; a shot is felt. 3. Abrasion on the right of the chest.	
18. E.Ponnasamy.	35. ~~Not known.~~ Doraé	A punctured wound situated at the right leg.	Discharged on 7-6-30.
19. Krishnasamy.	25. do.	A punctured wound on the right buttocks, shot is felt.	Discharged
20. S.Doraisamy.	19. Munisamy.	A punctured wound on the left leg. 2. A punctured wound on the little finger on the right hand. 3. A punctured wound on the right arm.	
21. Chinnappan.	40. ~~Not known.~~ Royappan	punctured wounds on the right side of the chest, right back, the left stapular region and the right arm.	
22. Venkatesh.	28. Irrich.	A punctured wound ~~behind~~ above the right clavical.	
23. Yesudasan.	18. Rubin.	A punctured on the righ shot is felt. 2. A punctu wound 3" below No/injury 3) A punctured wound on t arm. 4. Lenior lacerate on the right eyebrow 5. wound on the fore-head	(Discharged
24. Doraisamy.	25. Munisamy.	A punctured wound on the left thigh. Irregular abrasion the left lumbar region and a whole is present on the coat corresponding to the wound.	Discharged
25. Ramasamy.	25. Kandasamy.	A punctured wound on the right patella.	Discharged
26. Chinnakondi.	38. Kathadasa.	A punctured wound on the dorsal aspect of the left foot.	
27. Raman.	30. Chinna-kolanday.	A punctured wound on the left side of the lumbar region; shot is felt.	
28. Raju.	30. Parusaraman.	A punctured on the left leg.	
29. Parusaraman.	28. Chinnathambi.	A punctured wound on the right thigh. 2. A punctured wound on the left thigh. 3. A ~~contused~~ lacerated wound on the right ~~of~~ the back.	

30. Aiyakannan.	35. Chinnappian.		A punctured wound on the left thigh. 2. A punctured wound about 8" above the upper margin of the left patella. 3. A punctured wound on the left leg below the left patella.
31. Venkatasami.	45. Kondadu.		A punctured wound on the left ankle with a shot in it.
32. Munisami.	24. Lakshman.		Left canine and the left premolar teeth of the upper jaw are fractured.
33. Sigomaney.	20. Not known.		A punctured wound on the fore-head; shot is flatered.
34. Boochiah.	30. Ramiah.		A punctured wound on the left clavical.
35. Gopalan.	26. Hari.		A contused abrasion on the left buttocks.
36. Subban.	30. Erechan.		A punctured wound on the right side of the cheek; right facial paralisea present.
37. Ratnam.	18. ~~Not known~~ Sonajam		Two punctured wound on the inferior surface of the right thigh. 2. A posterior side of the right thigh with a shot in it. 37 A punctured wounds in right hypochondriac region
38. K.Samy.	40. Kolandyapan.		A contused wound on the right side of the chest.
39. Poley.	12. Venkatasami.		Four left toes excepting the bigtoe of the left foot have contused wounds above their middle.
40. Murugan.	29. Perumal.		A punctured wound below the left ear. 2. A punctured wound on the left thigh and the shot felt on the inner side of the left thigh.
41. Vardda Raj.	25. Perumarman.		Abration on the right buttocks. A contused wound on the left side of the back at the inferior angle of the left scapula.
42. Charles.	Erachan. 30./		Abration on the left thigh.
43. Perumal.	25. Aiyadoray.		A punctured wound on the right side of the abdomen and the shot felt. 2. A punctured wound on the left arm.
44. Gouran.	30. Not known.		A penetrating wound on the left side of the chest. Condition low.
8-4-30. 45. Govindasamy.	18. Aiyannu.		A contused wound on the right thigh.

Out of 45 cases 7 cases had no shots in their wounds; out of the remaining 38 cases, 22 shots were removed in 18 cases and ~~the~~ in the remaining 20 cases the shots could not be located as they were deep

Reserve POLICE MEN.

7-4-30.	1. Abdul Jabbar. P.C.No.'	25.	Injuries.
	2. Chinnasamy. P.C.130.	40.	do.
	3. Valakkappa. P.C.26.	35.	do.
	4. Shonamuthu. P.C.174.	35.	Contusion.
	5. Rahim Beig. P.C.339.	19.	do.
	6. Hanumansingh. P.C.255.	20.	do.

Robertsonpet.
Dated 8th April 1930.

District Medical Officer,
Kolar Gold Fields.

N.B.

30

7.4.30. 47 D. Doraisawmy. Arumugam. one punctured wound on left hand. Refused admission as impatient.

48 David. — 30. Vadanayakan. one punctured wound ¼" x ¼" on right leg & he brought a shot which was removed being superficial in the wound admitted as impatient on 9.4.30

4.30 49 K. Doraisawmy 23 - Varadaraj A punctured wound in the right wrist region & one shot was removed ~~by~~ ~~me~~ from it by me.

2) A superficial punctured wound in the right hip region

3) Three punctures wounds in the right thigh on the external aspect.

DISTRICT MEDICAL OFFICER,
KOLAR GOLD FIELDS.

9/4/30

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT.

D.O.C.C.20/29-30.
Enc:One.

(Camp) Oorgaum,
Dated, ~~Kolar~~ the 10th April 1930

Dear Mr. Madhava Rao,

I send herewith copies of the telephone messages ~~exchanged between us~~ sent by me to-day regarding the situation at the Kolar Gold Fields.

Yours sincerely,

To

N. Madhava Rao, Esq., B.A., B.L.,
Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore,
Bangalore.

Telephone messages exchanged between the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District and the Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore.

7.30 A.M.	To Chief Secretary to Government, 1st Member of Council, Private Secretary to the Dewan of Mysore, and the Director of Industries & Commerce. From the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Camp Oorgaum. K.G.F	Night passed off quiet. Nundydrug Mine representatives have presented list of grievances to Superintendent. I have interviewd Champion Reef and Ooregaum Contractors and also some Oorgaum coolies. They have promised to try and get representatives elected and approach the respective Superintendents.
12 Noon.	Do.-	Mysore Mine representatives have given their list of grievances to the Superintendent. Some Oorgaum Mine coolies have given a list to the Superintendent, but their representative character is being investigated.
8.30 P.M.	To the Chief Secretary to Government, the 2nd Member of Council, the Private Secretary to the Dewan.	Finger print slips destroyed without difficulty. Situation easy.

****

D.O. C.C. 21 Cwors
29.30

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT.
(Camp) Oorgaum,
Dated, Kolar, the 11th April 193 0

My dear Madhava Rao,

I send enclosed copies of telephone messages sent by me this day.

Yours sincerely,

To

N. Madhava Rao, Esq., B.A., B.L.,
Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore,
Bangalore

elephone messages sent by the DeputyCommissioner, Kolar District, Camp Oorgaum, to the Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore &c. on the 11th April 1930.

7.20 A.M.	To the Chief Secretary to Government, Private Secretary to the Dewan and 2nd Member of - Council.	Night passed off quiet. Pay disbursement started in Champion Reef and Oorgaum Mines at 7 A.M.
5.20 P.M.	To the Chief Secretary, Private Secretary to Dewan and the First Member of Council and Director of Industries and commerce.	Oorgaum Mine representatives meet the Superintendent tomorrow 10 A.M. Champion Reef Meeting this morning failed. All pay disbursement completed without hitch. Situation quiet.

Telephone messages sent to the Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore on the 12th April 1930.

---

7 A.M.	To the Chief Secretary ~~Secretary~~ and the Private Secretary to the Dewan.	Night passed off quiet . Atmosphere peaceful.
2.30 P.M.	To Chief Secretary, Private Secretary to the Dewan and the Chief Commandant, and the Director of Industries & Commerce & First Member of Council.	Oorgaum and Champion Reef Representatives' meetings successful. Peace certain.

20/29.80 Dated 12.4.30

Forwarded with compliments to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Mysore, Bangalore,.

Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

GOVERNMENT OF HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA OF MYSORE,
MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

CS: 3658

In replying please quote
No. C.2.5.20-4.

OFFICE OF THE SENIOR SURGEON IN MYSORE,

Bangalore, dated the 12-4-1930.

nc.
2 APR 1930
elegrams: SENORGEN.

Telephone: No. 27

ROM

S. SUBBA RAO, Esq., B.A., M.B.C.M., M.R.C.S., (Eng.) L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
Senior Surgeon with the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

The Chief Secretary to the
Government of Mysore, Bangalore.

IR,

I have the honor to state that the District Medical fficer, Kolar Gold Fields, reports in his letter No.721 ated 8-4-30, that from the 7th Instant, 45 gun-shot injury ases were admitted in the Civil Hospital. Twenty two shots re reported to have been removed from 18 cases. Among the est, only 2 cases in which the shots could not be located, re reported to be in bad condition.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
S. Subba Rao
Senior Surgeon.

2

Draft Telegram.

MAHSEC,
FERNHILL,
(NILIGIRIS)

DEPCOM	KOLAR	REPORTS	MESSAGE	BEGIN
FINGER	PRINT-	SLIPS	DESTROYED	WITHOUT
DIFFICULTY	SITUATION	EASY	NIGHT	PASSED
OFF	QUIET	DISBURSEMENT	TO	OORGAUM
AND	CHAMPION	MINES	STARTED	7 A.M.

DEWAN.

Sub for approval

Dewan) 11/4

11/4

(Issued)
11/4/30

11/4

Telegram dated 12th April 1930 from the Dewan of Mysore to the Private Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, Fernhill, Miligiris.

"Depcom Kolar reports Oorgaum and Champion Representatives meeting successful. Peace Certain.

Dewan".

Government of H.H.the Maharaja of Mysore.
General and Revenue Secretariat.

MEMO NO. 4033-53 Dated Bangalore, the 12th April 1930.

Post copy of the above is forwarded with compliments to the Private Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

By order,

12/4/30

For Chief Secretary to Government.

B.K.M.

12th April 1930

4036/C.B.

Dear Sir,

Now that the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar reports considerable improvement in the situation on the Kolar Gold Field, the Dewan desirs you to kindly consider whether the extra police and militar forces sent to the Field could be safely reducod. He trusts that if such a step is in your judgment, advisable, you would pass the necessary instructions to the Deputy Commissioner and the Inspector General of Police.

Yours sincerely,

Rajamantrapravina

C. S. Balasundaram Iyer, Esq., B.A.,

Second Member of Council.

CB3656

5186

10 Pm

Telephone message to the Chief Secretary to Govt.-

Negotiations between Mining Authorities and labourers have been going on. The labourers have given lists of their points. These are being have been discussed by the Superintendent of Mines among themselves and instructions from the English Board have been sought by cable on certain points. Reply is expected during the course of to-morrow and the Superintendent of Mines will then meet Representatives of all labourers of the different Mines on Tuesday afternoon and inform them of their decisions on various points and settlement may be reached. Mr. Ramanathan suggests that it would be desirable if I were here till Tuesday evening and also think that my presence here might be helpful to secure reasonable settlement. Would the Dewan find it convenient to adjourn the meetings of the Heads of the Departments fixed for Tuesday to a later date. In that case I shall be back on Wednesday morning. Please phone to me by 8 O'clock to-morrow.

There has been correspondence & reply sent to H Hawker Esq

By Order
H.C. Srinivasaraghavan
13.4.1930

991 V
14/4

Laid for perusal

First Member 14/4 14.4.30

Third Member.

Hon'ble Dewan 14.4.30

14/4/30

14/4

Rec'd at 5-45 pm

Telephone Message.

From

The Deputy Commissioner,

Camp, Oorgaum.

To

The Chief Secy to Govt

Meeting finished. Decision announced and explained and have posted copy for information of Government. Second member was also present at the meeting. I shall report further progress to-morrow. The management have met the demands of the employees on almost all the main points and except strike pay and institution of a provident fund.

Submitted.

14/4

15/4

Raj Telegram.

T o

MAHSEC

FERNHILL (Niligiris)

Second Member wires from Kolar Gold Field that lists of points given by labourers are being discussed by Superintendents among themselves and Superintendents will meet labour representatives on Tuesday afternoon and inform them of their decision.

--- DEWAN ---

From Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore.

Dated, Bangalore, 14th April 1930.

Sub for appl
Dewan) 14/4

Issued
and Conferred
14/4/30

C.B.3676

Telephone Message.

DEWAN'S OFFICE
15. APR. 1930
No. 4393

15th April 1930.
11-30 A.M.

From

The Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar Gold Fields.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government.

Situation continues quiet, but delicate. Peace negotiations still proceeding. Joint Meeting of the Labourers' representatives and the management comes off this afternoon at 3 p.m. Shall report the result after the meeting is over.

15-4.

Subd for perusal.

It is perhaps unnecessary to send a telegram to the Private secy to H.H. the Maharaja until we get some definite news.

Dewan)

15/4

15-4-30

16/4

16.4.80

Joined

(Telephone) (1) Private Secretary to Dewan
Mysore.

(Telegram) (2) Mah Sec, Fern Hill
Depcom Kolar reports
as follows. Labourers
have not resumed yet
They are preventing the
few persons who attempted
to go to work. Situation
calls for increased
attention and is
being carefully watched

Chief Secretary

TELEPHONE MESSAGE.

***

From

The Chief Secretary to Government.

To

The Private Secretary to the Dewan.
Mysore.

DEPCOM	KOLAR	REPORTS	AS	FOLLOWS.
LABOURERS	HAVE	NOT	RESUMED	YET.
THEY	ARE	PREVENTING	THE	FEW
PERSONS	WHO	ATTEMPTED	TO	GO
TO	WORK.	SITUATION	CALLS	FOR
INCREASED	ATTENTION	AND	IS	BEING
CAREFULLY	WATCHED.			

****

Transmitted to mysore. Was received by Mr. S. V. Subbarayan of the Dewan's Office

16.4.30

D. O. No. C.C.No:20/29-30.
Enc:

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT.
(Camp) Oorgaum,
Dated, Kolar, the 15th April 1930.

6255

CB.3682

My dear Madhava Rao,

I write to confirm my message as follows:-

"Meeting finished. Decisions announced and explained. I have posted a copy for the information of Government. Second Member was also present at the meeting. I shall report further progress tomorrow morning. The Management have met the demands of the employees on almost all the main points except strike pay and institution of a Provident Fund".

The decisions of the management as indicated in the two notices which were explained and interpreted by me at the request of the Committee in a joint meeting of the Committee and of the representatives of the Five Mines this evening at 3 P.M., at Oorgaum Hall. The representatives have promised to explain ~~it~~ the decisions to the workmen and report the result tomorrow.

Yours sincerely,

To.

N. Madhava Rao, Esq., B.A., B.L.,
Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore,
Bangalore.

DEWAN'S OFFICE.
16. APR. 1930
No. 4414

Subs for perusal
Dewan
16/4
18-4-30

N O T I C E.

Replies by the Superintendents of the Mines to submissions received on behalf of the labour employed at the five Mines. In the case of submissions which are particular to one Mine only reply will be given direct to the Mine Panchayat by the Superintendent of the Mine.

======

Submissions.	Mining Companies' reply.
1. That a notice shall be published to the effect that finger print forms not claimed have been destroyed by the District Magistrate on the 10th April and the employees have incurred no liability to the Companies in respect of such finger prints.	There is no liability and there never was.
2. That particulars of qualifications for receiving long service gratuity be published and the broken periods when absence is less than fixed limit should be calculated as one continuous period.	The present system is under review with the object of extending the benefits if possible.
3. That full pay be granted during the period of strike.	Strike pay will not be granted.
4. That the attendance bonus be allowed to employees working under contractors as in the case of Company employees.	This is the Contractors' business but Companies will discuss it with them with a view to seeing if a scheme can be worked out.
5. In reference to the Workmen's Compensation Regulation whereby injured workers receive half pay during temporary disablement after the first 10 days it is submitted that instead of half pay full pay from the date of accident shall be given. The workers are willing to subscribe one anna each per month to form an accident fund out of which the increased cost to the Mining Companies might be met.	The present arrangement is in accordance with the Government Regulation and full pay cannot be given.

Submissions.	Mining Companies' reply.
6. That sick pay be increased to half wages instead of the uniform rate of four annas per day.	The rate of four annas per day will be retained as a minimum but the introduction of a sliding scale based on the rate of pay will be introduced on the first of July 1930.
7. That employees be given an annual increase in their pay based on the length of service at such rates as Superintendents think fit.	The principle of annual increase cannot be introduced. Increases will continue to be given as heretofore according to merit.
8. That a Provident Fund Scheme be introduced for the employees. Contributions to be one anna in the Rupee which is to be repaid on the retirement of the employee together with the Companies' contribution.	This has been enquired into many times and has always been found impracticable having regard to the nature of the industry and local conditions.
=======	
9. That the Superintendent be requested to recognise elected representatives of the workmen from among themselves as a Panchayet entitled to represent individually or collectively the grievances of the workmen to him.	This is agreed to.
10. Employees are to be given 15 days leave every year with full pay either Company or Contractors and if Contractors men do not avail this privilege the Company should pay the wages of this period.	This cannot be done.

CPS

15/4/30

In all future correspondence please quote
No C.C.20/29-30.
Encl. Two.

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT,

(Camp) Oorgaum,
Dated, ~~Kolar~~, the 15th April 193 0

CB 3696

FROM

A. V. RAMANATHAN, ESQ., B.A.,
Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

17 APR. 1930
No. 6371

To

CHIEF SECRETARY,
17 APR. 1930

N. MADHAVA RAO, ESQ., B.A., B.L.,
Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore,
BANGALORE.

SIR,

In continuation of my previous letters, I have the honor to submit herewith, for the information of the Government, copy of the K.G.F., Special Superintendent's letter No: C.C.75/29-30 dated 14th April 1930 submitting a further report in respect of the opening of fire on the unruly crowd on the 7th instant in the Mysore Mine area.

I send also copy of his F.I.R. in D.H.C.No:16/29-30 registering a case under Secs.143,147 & 342 I.P.C. in respect of the same incident.

I have the honor to be,
S i r,
Your most obedient servant,

Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

DEWAN'S OFFICE
V.V.R.2.
22 APR. 1930
No. 15430. L4403

Subs for perusal
Dewan's
Members of Cl
Hon'ble
17/4
22-4-30
17/4/30
24/4/30

Letter No:C.C.75/29-30 dated 14th April 1930 from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, to the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District, Kolar.

In continuation of my letter No:C.C.75/29-30 dt the 8th instant, reporting the opening of fire on an unruly crowd on the 7th instant in the Mysore Mine Area, I have the honor to state that eighty rounds of buckshot were fired in all. All the time of firing there were the Assistant Superintendent of Police, one Havildar, One Subedar and 37 men of the Provincial Reserve men of whom 22 Constables had M.H.Rifles. 47 persons were admitted into the Civil Hospital for injuries alleged to have been caused by the firing. I am glad to report that there have been no deaths from the injuries and that the two persons who were reported to have been seriously injured are improving and may recover in all probability. 24 shots were recovered from 20 persons. I understand the District Medical Officer, Robertsonpet Civil Hospital has furnished you further details regarding these injuries.

"Copy"

Copy of F.I.R. in D.H.C.No:16/29-30 on the file of the Marikuppam Police Station in Crime No:133/29-30.

Secs.143,147 & 342 I.P.C.

Complainant:- ... Government of Mysore.

Vs.

Accused. :- ... 1. Arokiasamy, 2. Vajravelu, 3. Kandasamy, 4. Karmamangala Mari, 5. Basur Muthan, 6. Sami Reddy, 7. Guriah, 8. Dhandakarunyam, 9. Raman, 10. Singaram, 11. Veerasamy, 12. Desay, 13. Sholey, 14. Barnabers, 15. Mathanathan, 16. Padavattan & others.

On the morning of 7-4-1930 the coolies of the Mysore Mines struck work and were congregating in several places. As the coolies of all other Mines had already struck work Police men were posted in different places to prevent any disturbances.

At about 11 A.M. the Divisional Inspector, Mr. H.G.Searle directed the Marikuppam Sub Inspector to proceed to Madrasi Watchmen Line with some Provincial Reserve Police men as the Watchmen were being obstructed from proceeding on their duties, so the Sub Inspector and the Assistant Supervisor of Watch Establishment went there with some Reserve Police men and saw a huge crowd of strikers with sticks, broken branches or rafters gathered all round the watchmen. The Sub Inspector entered the crowd and saw that the watchmen being closely obstructed from marching on their duties. Then the Sub Inspector asked one of the watchmen named Chinnasamy as to what was the cause for trouble. He gave out that they were not allowed to proceed and thus prevented them from going on their duties.

On hearing this the Sub Inspector advised the crowd not to prevent or obstruct the watchmen and to let them go on their duties. The crowd did not pay any heed but grew larger in number with a threatening mood. Thinking that the situation was becoming critical the Sub Inspector sent information to the Divisional Inspector for help. Then Messrs: V. Vedavyasacharya, the Special Magistrate, S. Krishnamurthi, the Munsiff Magistrate, Arthur Jone the Chief Officer, Watch Establishment and his Assistant Gopal and myself with some other officers went there with some more Reserve Force. The crowd was still in the same defiant mood and

began to close upon the Police and other officers, so the officers advised the crowd and asked them to disperse from the place leaving the Watchmen free to march off on their duties. No body heeded. Then attempts were made to remove the watchmen putting a Police Cordon all round and also through a lorry. Even then the crowd did not give away. Some of the coolies even laid on the road preventing the lorry which was intended to convey the watchmen. The crowd thus became more and more turbulent. Attempts were also made to push them back. Then the coolies hurl stones at the officers, Police and watchmen and caused injuries the Special Magistrate, explained to the coolies that if they failed to disperse and continue to hurl stones the Police would be asked to open fire but to no effect. Then the Police opened fire as per orders of the Special Magistrate, and dispersed th rioters. Some of the coolies received gunshot wounds, and they were removed to the Hospital for treatment.

Hence the accused and the others have thereby committed offences under Sections 143, 147 & 342 I.P.C.

Assistant Superintendent of Police, Mr. H. V. Krishna Rao has taken up the investigation of the case.

Sd. S. Narayana Rao;
Special Superintendent of Poli
Kolar Gold Field.

D.H.C.No:16/29-30.

Copy submitted to the District Magistrate, Kolar Dis for favour of information.

Sd. S. Narayana Rao,
Special Supt. of Police, K.G.F.

******

"Copy"

CONFIDENTIAL.

6th April 1930.

4093/CB
Enl

ISSUED.

Dear Mr. Ramanathan,

I am desired to forward for your information the accompanying extract from a letter received from the Residency taking exception to the employment of members of the Kolar Gold Field Auxiliary Force as special constables.

Yours sincerely,

A.V. Ramanathan, Esq., B.A.,
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District,
Camp Oorgaum.

Extract from Letter No. C./7598/64 of 1930 dated 9th April 1930 from the Secretary to the Resident in Mysore to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Mysore, Bangalore.

*****

x x x x

x x x

I am to say that no steps should be taken to enrol any members of the Kolar Gold Field Battalion as special constables as that Battalion has definite duties under the Internal Security Scheme, and is under the orders of the Commander, Madras District for that purpose.

x x x x

x x x x

"Copy."

Chief Secretary to Government.

17/4/30

Draft Telegram.

MAHSEC,

FERNHILL,

(NILIGIRIS)

EPCOM KOLAR REPORTS AS
FOLLOWS. NIGHT PASSED OFF
QUIET. MEN DISSATISFIED WITH
CONTINUANCE OF EMPLOYMENT OFFICE
AND INSISTENCE ON SIGNATURE
OR LEFT THUMB IMPRESSIONS
THEY ARE ASKING TO
BE PAID UP-TO-DATE. AND WANT
TO LEAVE. THE EXODUS
BEGAN DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY.

CHISEC.

4101
CB
17/4/30

Confirming the above.

Telephone message received from the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District to the Chief Secretary to Government at 10 A.M. on 17th April 1930.

****

NIGHT PASSED OFF QUIET. MEN DISSATISFIED WITH CONTINUANCE OF EMPLOYMENT OFFICE AND INSISTENCE ON SIGNATURE OR LEFT THUMB IMPRESSIONS. THEY ARE ASKING TO BE PAID [illegible] UP-TO-DATE AND WANT TO LEAVE. THE EXODUS BEGAN DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY.

*

Secretariat.

Branch.

Subject:-

From Cmmr Wright

to discuss

17/4/30 at 10 A.M

For Orders

Wright leaves Mr Grieve

Mem dissatisfied with continuance

of employment Mrie and

insistence on Agriculture or Lept

Mem impressions My are

asking the Govt to date

& want to leave Mr Evatt

telegram any enquire yesterday

Agree

Mr 17/4

CP-3695

POST COPY OF

TELEPHONE MESSAGES SENT TO THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE, BANGALORE, FROM THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, KOLAR DISTRICT, CAMP, O O R G A U M.

~~6.25 A.M.~~

7.20 A.M. To

The Chief Secretary, Private Secretary to Dewan, First Member of Council, The Chief Commandant, Director of Industries & Commerce.

Labourers have not resumed work. They are preventing the few persons who attempted to go to work. Situation calls for increased attention and is being carefully - watched.

16.4.30

20/29.4.30

Forwarded with compliments to the Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore, Bangalore, for information.

CHIEF SECRETARY 17 APR. 1930

Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

Telephone message.

From

The Dy.Commissioner, Kolar,

(K.G.F.)

To

The Private Secretary to Dewan

Local Commanding Officer has issued an order of the Chief Commandant No.1232 dated 15-4-1930 directing that 100 men should return to Bangalore on the 20th ie., tomorrow. The situation is not yet safe. The entire force is absolutely necessary for 3 days after all the men resume work and half the force is necessary for about 10 days thereafter. Pray issue revised orders. I shall intimate as soon as I can spare any portion of the force. I cannot accept responsibility if force is withdrawn now.

Recd.9.20 a.m.

Bangalore,
19th April 1930.

Submitted
28
19.4.30

C. Secy
Minister submits Mr's II Memo of Mr C agrees, telephone to Dy Comm'r & instructs C.C. to keep all the men there until further orders.

19-4-30

Telephone Message. Received on 19/4/30.

From

The Deputy Commissioner, Kolar,
(K. G. F.)

To

The Chief Secretary to Government,

Bangalore.

Night passed off quiet except for reported throwing of stones onan Electrical workman's shed to which place police picket was promptly sent. None have returned to work. Situation continues anxious.

Local Commanding Officer has issued an order of the Chief Commandant No.1232 dated 15-4-1930 directing that 100 men should return to Bangalore on the 20th, i.e. to-morrow. Situation is not yet safe. The entire force is absolutely necessary for 3 days, after all the men resume the work and half the force is necessary for about 10 days thereafter. Pray issued revised orders. I shall intimate as soon as I can spare any portion of the force. I cannot accept responsibility if force is withdrawn now.

B.K.M.

19-4-1930. 1-50 P.M.

From

The Chief Secretary to Government.

To

The Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District,
Camp Kolar Gold Fields.

Chief Commandant says that he ~~has~~
issued telegraphic instructions this morning to
the Commandant cancelling his previous order
He is also sending messenger to
Kolar Gold Fields to confirm. He
says that in any case the
men cannot leave without return warrants
which have not yet been issued.
Please make inquiries at Telegraph Office
and make sure.

****

Memo No. General and Revenue Secretariat.

Dated, Bangalore the 19th April 1930.

Post copy of the above telephone message is forwarded with compliments to the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District, Camp Kolar Gold Fields.

By Order,

Chief Secretary to Government.

19-4-1930. 1-50 P.M.

From

The Chief Secretary to Government.

To

The Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

Camp Kolar Gold Fields.

Chief Commandant says that he ~~has~~ issued telegraphic instructions this morning to the Commandant cancelling his previous order to He is also sending messenger to Kolar Gold Fields to confirm. He says that in any case the men cannot leave without return warrants which have not yet been issued. Please make inquiries at Telegraph Office and make sure.

****

Transmitted to "A" Station & Wes
Received by Mr. Srinivasaiya

19.4.30

Telephone Message.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government,

Bangalore.

From

The Deputy Commissioner, Kolar,
(Camp K.G.F.)

About 80 men went under ground in Nandidurg Mines at 9 A.M. Their women and 1000 others came at 12 noon and demanded the return of men. The Superintendent met them and the crowd took an ugly turn. The Superintendent promised to send back the men. After the men came up the crowd dispersed. The Chief Commandant's order has been received allowing full force to stay.

Received at 4 P.M.

19-4-1930.

---

pcm 1914

Immediate.

19th April 3

4106/C.D
Encl

Dear Col. Loch,

I am desired to enclose herewith a copy of a telephone message received this morning from the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District, and to say that all the troops sent to the Kolar Gold Field should be kept there until further orders.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) N. Madhava Rau,

Chief Secretary to Government.

To

Col. J.C.Loch, C.B.E., I.A.,
Chief Commandant, Mysore State Troops.

Subs for perusal

Hon Member

19/4/30

20/4/30

19 April
10 am

My dear Mr Shaw Rao,

Herewith a copy of phone message from Lt. J. I. agree with Rama Rao that we are not yet ready for the use of a strong force is needed to prevent violence - Because things have been quiet these days it is wrong to take force we have got - Rein[illegible] take Dewan's order since in[illegible] that the force ~~at~~ should not be weakened till week after the men return.

Received
at 9.40 AM
on 19/4/20

From
The D.C.
Camp ICSF

To The Secnd Member of Council.

Local Commanding Offcr has issued an order of the Chief Commandant No. 1232 dy 15-4-20 directing that 100 men shuld return to Bangalore on the 25th inst. Situation is not yet safe. The entire force is absolutely necessary for 3 days after all the men resume work & only the force is necessary for abt 10 days thereafter. Please issue revised orders. I shall intimate, as soon as I can spare any portion of the force. I cannot accept responsibility

Telephone messages exchanged between the Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore &c., and theDeputy Commissioner, Kolar District, Camp Oorgaum, on the 19th April 1930.

CB/ CB 3743

7.25 A.M.	Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore, Private Secretary to the Dewan of Mysore, First Member of Council, Second Member of Council, Chief Commandant, Director of Industries & Commerce.	Night passed off quiet for reported throwing of stones on an Electrical workman's hut to which place Police - picket was promptly sent. None has returned to work. Situatio continues anxious.
8.5 A.M.	Chief Secretary to Govt. Private Secretary tothe Dewan of Mysore, Second Member of Council, Chief Commandant.	Local Commanding Officer has received an order of the Chief Commandant No:1232 dated 15th April directing that 100 men should return to Bangalore on 20th i.e., to-morrow. Situation is not safe. The entire force is absolutely necessary for 3 days after all men resume work and half the force i necessary for about 10 days - thereafter. Pray issue revised orders. I shall intimate as soon as I can spare any portio of the force. I cannot accept responsibility if force is now weakened.
12.40 Noon.	To the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Camp K.G.F. from the Chief Secretary.	Received your message this morning about Lancers. Chief Commandant says that he has already informed you that all the men will be kept in the Field as long as he wants them.

CHIEF SECRETARY. 21 APR. 1930

C.C.20/29-30.

Forwarded with compliments to the Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore, Bangalore, for information.

Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

Telephone messages exchanged between the Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore and the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District, Camp Oorgaum, on the 19th April 1930.

3.5 P.M.	From the Chief Commandant, Mysore State Troops, Bangalore to the Deputy Commissioner.	Your telephone message received at 1.45 P.M. Orders have been issued t Officer Commanding, Detatchment, K. G.F. to remain there till strike - ends. A wire to you has also been sent. Letter follows.
3.P.M.	To theChief Secretary to Government of Mysore, Chief Commandant, Mysore State Troops, Bangalore.	About80 men went underground Nundy-drug Mine at 9 A.M. Their women and a thousand others came at 12 Noon and demanded the return of the men. The Superintendent met them and the crowd took an ugly turn. But the Superintendent promised to send bac the men.After the men came up, the crowd dispersed. Chief Commandant's order has been received allowing full force to stay.
	From the Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore, Bangalore to the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar.	Chief Commandant says that he issue telegraphic instructions this morn-ing to the Commandant cancelling hi previous order. He is also sending a message to K.G.F. to confirm. He says that in any case, the men can-not leave without written warrant which has not yet been received. Please make enquiries at telegraphi office and make sure.

C.C.20/29-30.

Copies of the above are forwarded with compliments to the Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore, Bangalore.

Deputy Commissioner
Kolar District.
Camp Oorgaum.

CHIEF SECRETARY, 21 APR. 1930

19th April 30.

Immediate.

4106/C.B
Enl

Dear Col. Loch,

I am desired to enclose herewith a copy of a telephone message received this morning from the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District, and to say that all the troops sent to the Kolar Gold Field should be kept there until further orders.

Yours sincerely.

To

Col. J.C.Loch, C.B.E., I.A.,
Chief Commandant, Mysore State Troops.

Immediate.

No. 4118
CB

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT,

Bangalore, 19th April 1930

My dear Ramanathan,

The Dewan will be glad to have a talk with you about the situation on the Kolar Gold Field. I am therefore to suggest that you may come to Bangalore either to-morrow or Monday if you feel that you can safely be away from the Field for a few hours.

Yours sincerely,

To

A. V. Ramanathan Esq., B.A.,

Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

Telephone message from the Chief Secretary to Government to the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District, (K.G.F.) at 12 Noon on 19th April 1930.

*****

RECEIVED YOUR MESSAGE THIS MORNING ABOUT LANCERS. CHIEF COMMANDANT SAYS THAT HE HAS ALREADY INFORMED YOU THAT ALL THE MEN WILL BE KEPT ON THE FIELD AS LONG AS YOU WANT THEM.

Transmitted. Received by Mr. Seshagiri Rao at A. Station.

G.R.S. III—3]

Routine Notes.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

Kolar Gold Field Strike.

D. O. letter dated 18th April 1930 from the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District addressed to the Second Member

---

Submitted for perusal.

Third Member)

29/4

First Member)

29/4/30

3014/30

7/5

N.B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips, the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form.

CB. 3806

D.O.No. C.C.20/29-30.
Enc :

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONE
KOLAR DISTRICT.
(Camp) Oorgaum,
Dated, ~~Kolar~~, the 18th April *19*

My dear Sir,

After watching the situation at Balaghat and Mundydi, this morning, I went over to Mr. Nye at 10.20 A.M. and had a long conversation with him up to 1[illegible].30. I explained to him to ~~start~~ w~~ that while we did not want to interfere in their discussion for deciding the further questions arising out of the strike situation we felt that the time had arrived to inform him definitely that as far we ~~convince~~ could sense the feeling of the coolies on the Field they were still obsessed with the vague fear about giving their thumb impression or signature as required by the latest notice and they are definitely averse to having to appear before the Central Employment office for registration. I informed him that according to the information gathered by ~~him~~ me personally and seeing the large number of coolies who preferred to go back to their homes rather than work in the Field after giving their thumb impressions and placed by me before you including the information relating to the families which left for Gudiyattham on foot last night whom I met during my night patrol, you agreed with me in the view that there was real feeling universally among the employees against the thumb impressions and the appearance before the Central office, and that I conveyed this information ~~that~~ with your ~~promise~~ to Mr. Nye for consideration and decision by the Committee as to the action they were prepared to take in the light of this information. I told him also that we considered it desirable that a Provident fund should be provided for the employees of the Mining Companies and offered to examine the question ~~after~~ if he ~~was~~ desired in consultation with the Accounts officers of the Government.

Mr. Nye stuck to the ~~information~~ position that the provident fund scheme was ~~improbable~~ impossible. I told him however that we did not press thi at once because this is not a matter which required to be decided before the strike was over and that we might examine it afesh after things had settled down to normal conditions. He next asked me whet it was ~~the~~ a request from the Government to the Committee that they

should remove the thumb impression or signature and abolish the employment office. I replied that we were not ~~approached~~ prepared to make such a request. He then asked whether he could consider it as a definite suggestion from the Government. I told him that the idea was that the Management should be ~~fair~~ aware of the universal ~~interest~~ nature of the feeling against these two points and that the Government did not want to offer any definite suggestion immediately.

He next proceeded to contest the accuracy of this information or opinion. He stated that in his opinion and according to the information received by him from two Indian subordinates and from the development of the situation, ~~and~~ that a large majority of the people do not worry about their thumb impression but it was ~~xx~~ put up only by some agitators and that the information that reached ~~him~~ me had been cooked and presented. He added that there was no reason why the management should be suspected in adopting an absolutely innocuous but necessary to register the labour on the Field and in any case the suspicion which had been aroused in the minds of the labour was absolutely groundless and unjustified and this could not justify the ~~scrapping~~ scrapping of a necessary and a well considered system of registration, which had already been ~~xxxxxx~~ watered down to the minimum in response to the suggestions and as a concession to the labourers. He further stated that in the considered view of the Committee, the ~~xxxxxxx~~ strike was really a fight as to who was the master of the situation the Company (the employer) or the coolies, that the strike had been engineered and is being kept up by some discontented contractors and by the sahukars on the Field to whose advantage it was that labour should not be registered and controlled by the Company.

He stated further that ~~if~~ in the considered view of the Committee one set of suggestions had been acted upon until the meeting of the 15th and it was now time ~~to give~~ 'to go to sleep' and allow labour to settle the differences in its ranks and allow time to act on the suber elements so that they might over power the rowdy elements. He added also that if the management were now advised to yield to these childish ideas which had no point it would amount to allowing the master ~~of the~~ to

labour and lead to close down the mines because of the Companies would be unable to manage the labour hereafter.

I pointed out to him that none of his points was relevant to the information given by me to him which related ~~xxxxxx~~ neither to the origin ~~xxxxx~~ nor cause of the feeling among the labour about the employment office and the signature of the thumb impression, nor to the agency which brought about this feeling but related mainly to its universal ~~nature~~. I reiterated that I did not feel called upon to pass any information on these points till to day because I did not feel confirmed about its universal ~~interest~~ nature and that I am now in a position to confidently assert that the feeling against these two items is universal, that it was ~~individual~~ evident also by the large number of labours who preferred to leave the Field rather than work after giving thumb impression and that I did not feel called upon to do anything more than place this clear information in his ~~poisition~~ possession on behalf of the Committee. I told him also that I had been ~~brought for him information~~ asked for the on this and other points yesterday and that I decline to give any opinion as it was for the management to decide for itself as regards what to do on the facts before it and that even now the responsibility for a decision on the information given by ~~him~~ me must rest with the Committee and I cannot take ~~with~~ the responsibility. He stated that I ~~xxxx~~ could not start a hare and leave it there and that if a person lights a match ~~into it~~ & throws it, it was his business to take it up. I replied that while I will undertake the responsibility to decide on any question ~~with~~ where the preservation of law and order require my intervention and decision on that point I ~~xxxxxx~~ had not the training or the competency to decide on the question which related mainly to the management and that the management had to decide whether ~~xxx~~ to lose the old and trained labour or to ~~xxxxx~~ stick to their idea of an Employment office and thumb impression or signature, and also to decide on when concession had to be made without its being to be a sign of weakness. I pointed out also that the Coolies asked why the signature or thumb impression was asked if it was unnecessary & why the management sought it at the cost of labour. But Nye stated it was forgetting Control of labour

Mr. Nye stated that if the Mysore Government took the responsibility of a decision they will have to take the responsibility

for the future also and that in the considered opinion of the Committee nothing further was called for and he hoped if the men were left to themselves they would come back to work on Monday next or perhaps a few days later. He agreed that though the management were of a different ... they had been in touch with labour for 40 years & could be trusted to deal with the ... in question firmness was necessary.

He next stated that afterall it was not as if it were a Co-operative Society with labourers also as members. I took up this remark and pointed out to him that while certainly the companies were not Co-operative Societies with the labour as share holders more than industrial economics and Science led it down as an axiom that labour was a coparcener in every industry with capital and that the old idea of master and servant was rapidly fading away and a new relationship was being recognised everywhere. He replied emphatically not. I had to tell him that all Industrial information had recognised that labour had interest in the industry which it served in common with the employer or the management and the sooner the companies realised themselves the better will it be for them. He reported that because some concerns in advanced United States worked on that basis and it was not yet certain whether that scheme proved a success and because certain books stated this new theory ---------- the books do not give out correct information. I should not run to the conclusion that each individual cooly on the Field should be consulted by the management on matters of policy or administration. and that in any case there were no authorised representatives in the Field to deal with.

I pointed out to him that the management had definitely taken the stand last year of allowing ~~a considered opinion~~ no Labour Union on the and it was not open to them now to say that because there were no elected representatives labour could not be heard and that he was entirely mistaken in his theory of industry which was antiquated and that he will have soon to realise that labour had an important stake in each industry and that in any case it was necessary for us to keep him informed of the universal nature of the feeling given to the two items already referred to. I told him that we shall act for the present ... if he did not act on our information and that for my part I have announced ... Conference I shall give an authoritative announcement that labour loses nothing

He then referred to your conversation with him yesterday evening and asked me how it was possible to grant increased in wages that

returns and that if suggestions were made ~~then~~ without adequate previous study it would certainly lead to early closing up of the industry. I replied that the suggestion was made by you bearing in mind the complaint that there was not adequate labour force on the Field even prior to the strike and ~~now~~ in ~~the~~ view of the fact it would be difficult to ~~recruit~~ recruit labour for ~~which~~ such arduous work unless wages were raised to a ~~labourer~~ level higher than that now obtaining in other occupations and relatively ~~that~~ to the rate that has obtained for several years. He stated that it would be difficult to carry on the industry if ~~the~~ remarks were made 'glibely.' I told him that was not the only point in your mind and that you had instructed ~~him~~ me and my officers to try and find out the actual rate of wages which the contractors are paying to the coolies ~~that~~ with a view to ~~few~~ find out whether the contractors are not holding up ~~grounds~~ more than their share and starving labour.

Finally Mr. Nye stated that the Committee had come to the definite conclusion that the requirements for the registry of the labour had been reduced to its minimum and that the ~~contractors~~ directors of the Companies would not agree to any further surrender to labour. I told him that it was not my purpose ~~xxxxxxxx~~ at present to request or direct him or the Committee to accept any particular decision but that I would leave the information I had with me in his ~~xxx position~~ possession for such use as he wishes to make of it, and that I would not press for any decision of the Committee until I consider it necessary to adopt such a course in the interest of peace and order.

Before parting I informed him also of our conversion at about languages in which accounts should be required to be maintained by Marvaris. He did not agree to the alternative of leaving the identification Cards with signatures or thumb impression with the coolies with respect, I remain

Yours sincerely,

To

RAJAMANTRA PRAVINA
C. S. BALASUNDARAM IYER, ESQ., B.A.,
Second Member of Council, Bangalore.

G. R. S. III—3]

ROUTINE NOTES.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

shine on the Kolar Gold Fds.

I beg to submit herewith a letter (with enclosures) received last night from the Dy. Comr Kolar.

A message this morning says that the two cases referred to in the letter have been issued.

I have informed Mr. Ramaiah that as the second Member has gone to Mr K. G. F., it is no longer necessary for him (Mr Ramaiah) to come to Bangalore to see the [illegible]

Dewan

Members

N. B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips, the notes must be cipoed, or slips pasted on this form

A. V. RAMANATHAN
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

Gorgaum
KOLAR
20/4/30

My dear Madhava Rao,

I am in receipt of your letter D-6-4118 CB of 19-4-30. I received it at 3 P.m. as it was posted late. I have since spoken to my self & there is nothing more over my Conversation with him on 18/4/30. at 12-45 P.m today I received from him the enclosed letter asking for a policy of 'stern repression'. I have met the Myself subsequently & discussed the situation afresh with him & he pressed on behalf of the Committee prohibition of meetings, prohibition of movement of more than 5 persons & of carrying of canes etc. I propose issuing the enclosed orders after the C. S. Balasundaram Iyer arrives and I explain the situation to him. He has promised to be at Gorgaum by 6 P.m.

For these reasons, I am unable to leave Gorgaum this night:

Copy of letter dated 20th April 1930 from Mr. Ralph Nye, Chairman and Executive Member, Messrs: John Taylor & Sons' Committee, Oorgaum to the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar.

I have the honor to address you on behalf of the five operating Gold Mining Companies on the Kolar Gold Field that their allied Companies and Departments and to submit that the time has come in this present unfortunate labour dispute for the adoption of a more actively preventative police policy if law and order is to be maintained and the homes and persons of the large number of men who are anxious to go back to work are to be protected.

As regards the steps to be taken that of course is a matter for Government to decide but that which in the Mining Companies' opinion calls for stern repression is the general state of intimidation caused by the mobbing of willing workers, essential service men and others together with the constant moving to and fro from Mine to Mine of organised crowds some carrying sticks and engaged in audibly threatening harmless people. There is also the gathering of crowds and their incitement by inflamatory speeches. It is unnecessary that I should cite instances in support of these statements for the situation must be equally apparent to your officers and to the Police authorities.

I beg to accompany this earnest appeal with an assurance that the Mining Companies offer the fullest information regarding the matters with which the present agitation is concerned and they assert that the amended terms of service as indicated in their Public notice of the 15th instant cannot be regarded as in any degree onerous or unfair. They impose nothing upon the labourer which he is not called upon to do in otherparts of the world and they represent the minimum requirements for efficient administration. The comparatively few demands of the men apart from the main issue dealt with in the foregoing notice are disposed of in the Mining Companies' Public Notice of the 16th April and it is contended that the replies thereto exhibit a genuine desire to meet the men's grievances.

I have the honor to thank you for your untiring energy

in the matter of attempting to bring about a termination of this dispute by negotiation as well as to tender thanks to Government and yourself for the steps taken so far to maintain law and order but as concerns the latter I have the honor to repeat the Mining Companies' strong conviction that the time for ordinary measures has gone by and the time for the adoption of special measures has arrived.

Copy
20/4/33

IN THE COURT OF THE DISTRICT MAGISTRATE, KOLAR DISTRICT.

Dated Camp Oorgaum, the 20th day of April 1930.

Present:- A. V. Ramanathan, Esq., B.A., District Magistrate.

Cr. Mis. No:Camp 1 of 1929-1930.

BY VIRTUE of the authority vested in me as District Magistrate by Section 45 of the Mysore Police Regulation, I Mr. A. V. Ramanathan District Magistrate, Kolar, do hereby direct that no public meeting or assembly of more than five persons in a public place shall be held or conducted and that no drum or tom tom be beaten within the local limits of the areas of the Five Gold Mining Companies operating on the Kolar Gold Field or the adjoining villages of Ooregaum, Sonnakoppa, Robertsonpet, Masikam or Andersonpet from this day until the 15th day of May 1930, except under license from me or from the Special Magistrate, Champion Reefs or Munsiff Magistrate, Robertsonpet or the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Field.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Court this the twentieth day of April 1930 at Oorgaum.

20-4-1930.

istrict Magistrate,
Kolar District.

Copy

IN THE COURT OF THE DISTRICT MAGISTRATE OF K O L A R.
Dated Camp Oorgaum, the 20th day of April 1930.

Present:- A. V. Ramanathan, Esq., B.A., District Magistrate.

Cr. Mis. No:Camp.2 of 1929-1930.

BY VIRTUE of the authority vested in me as District Magistrate by Section 39 of the Mysore Police Regulation, I, Mr. A. V. Ramanathan, District Magistrate of Kolar do hereby prohibit within the local --- limits of the areas of the five Gold Mining Companies operating on the Kolar Gold Field or the adjoining villages of Ooregaum, Robertsonpet, Sonnakuppam, Masikam or Andersonpet, from the 20th day of April 1930 until the 15th day of May 1930 inclusive, the carrying of arms, cudgels or other weapons, the carrying, collection and preparation of stones or other missiles or instruments or means of casting or impelling missiles and also the delivery of harangues which may incite to the commission of an offence or to a disturbance of the public peace.

This prohibition shall not apply to Government officers, including Special Police officers and such other individuals as are -- specially exempted by me or the Special Magistrate, Champion Reefs or the Munsiff Magistrate, Robertsonpet or the Special Superintendent of ~~of~~ Police by an order in writing in respect of each individual.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Court this the ---- twentieth day of April 1930 at Camp Oorgaum.

District Magistrate,
Kolar District.

Copy

Oorgaum,

20th April 1930.

My dear Madhava Rao,

I am in receipt of your letter D.O.4118/C.B. dated 19th April 1930. I received it at 3 P.M. as it was posted late. I have since spoken to Mr.Nye and there is nothing more over my conversation with him of 18th April 1930.

I received at 12-45 P.M. to-day from him the enclosed letter asking for a policy of "stern repression". I have met Mr. Nye subsequently and discussed the situation afresh with him and he pressed on behalf of the Committee prohibition of meetings, prohibition of movement of more than 5 persons and of carrying of canes etc. I propose issuing the enclosed orders after Mr. C. S. Balasundaram Iyer arrives and I explain the situation to him. He has promised to be at Oorgaum by 6 P.M.

For these reasons, I am unable to leave Oorgaum this night. I shall try to go to-morrow if the situation permits me to do so.

Yours sincerely,

Sd.A.V.Ramanathan.

P. S.

Will it be convenient to the Dewan Sahib if I arrive at Bangalore by the Express to-morrow evening and I can get back by the Mail train or the Express train Tuesday? Kindly advise me.

Intd. A.V.R.

20-4-1930.

Copy of letter dated 20th April 1930 from Mr.Ralph Nye, Chairman and Executive Member, Messrs' John Taylor & Sons' Committee, Oorgaum to the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar.

I have the honour to address you on behalf of the five operating Gold Mining Companies on the Kolar Gold Field that their allied Companies and Departments and to submit that the time has come in this present unfortunate labour dispute for the adoption of a more actively preventive police policy if law and order is to be maintained and the homes and persons of the large number of men who are anxious to go back to work are to be protected.

As regards the steps to be taken that of course is a matter for Government to decide but that which in the Mining Companies' opinion calls for stern repression is the general state of intimidation caused by the mobbing of willing workers, essential service men and others together with the constant moving to and fro from Mine to Mine of organised crowds some carrying sticks and engaged in audibly threatening harmless people. There is also the gathering of crowds and their incitement by inflamatory speeches. It is unnecessary that I should cite instances in support of these statements for the situation must be equally apparent to your officers and to the Police authorities.

I beg to accompany this earnest appeal with an assurance that the Mining Companies offer the fullest information regarding the matters with which the present agitation is concerned and they assert that the amended terms of service as indicated in their Public notice of the 15th instant cannot be regarded as in any degree onerous or unfair. They impose nothing upon the labourer which he is not called upon to do in otherparts of the world and they represent the minimum requirements for efficient administration. The comparatively few demands of the men apart from the main issue dealt with in the foregoing notice are disposed of in the Mining Companies' Public Notice of the 16th April and it is contended that the replies thereto exhibit a genuine desire to meet the men's grievances.

I have the honor to thank you for your untiring energy in the matter of attempting to bring about a termination of this dispute by

P.T.O.

negotiation as well as to tender thanks to Government and yourself for the steps taken so far to maintain law and order but as concerns the latter I have the honor to repeat the Mining Companies' strong conviction that the time for ordinary measures has gone by and the time for the adoption of special measures has arrived.

B.K.M.

IN THE COURT OF THE DISTRICT MAGISTRATE, KOLAR DISTRICT.

Dated Camp Oorgaum, the 20th day of April 1930.

Present:- A. V. Ramanathan, Esq., B.A., District Magistrate.

Cr. Mis. No.1 Camp.1 of 1929-1930.

BY VIRTUE of the authority vested in me as District Magistrate by Section 45 of the Mysore Police Regulation, I Mr. A. V. Ramanathan District Magistrate, Kolar, do hereby direct that no public meeting or assembly of more than five persons in a public place shall be held or conducted and that no drum or tom tom be beaten within the local limits of the areas of the Five Gold Mining Companies operating on the Kolar Gold Field or the adjoining villages of Oorgaum, Sonnakoppa, Robertsonpet, Nasikam or Andersonpet from this day until the 15th day of May 1930, except under license from me or from the Special Magistrate, Champion Reefs or Munsiff Magistrate, Robertsonpet or the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Field.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Court this the twentieth day of April 1930 at Oorgaum.

20-4-1930.

District Magistrate,
Kolar District.

B .K.H.

IN THE COURT OF THE DISTRICT MAGISTRATE OF KOLAR.

Dated Camp Oorgaum, the 20th day of April 1930.

Present:- A.V.Ramanathan Esq., B.A., District Magistrate.

Cr. Mis. Not Camp.2 of 1929-1930.

BY VIRTUE of the authority vested in me as District Magistrate by Section 39 of the Mysore Police Regulation, I, Mr.A.V.Ramanathan, District Magistrate of Kolar do hereby prohibit within the local limits of the areas of the five Gold Mining Companies operating on the Kolar Gold Field or the adjoining villages or Oorgaum, Robertsonpet, Sonnakuppam, Nasikam or Andersonpet, from the 20th day of April 1930 until the 15th day of May 1930 inclusive, the carrying of arms, cudgels or other weapons, the carrying, collection and preparation of stones or other missiles or instruments or means of casting or impelling missiles and also the delivery of harangues which may incite to the commission of an offence or to a disturbance of the public peace.

This prohibition shall not apply to Government Officers, including Special Police Officers and such other individuals as are specially exempted by me or the Special Magistrate, Champion Reefs or the Munsiff Magistrate, Robertsonpet or the Special Superintendent of Police by an order in writing in respect of each individual.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Court this the twentieth day of April 1930 at Camp Oorgaum.

District Magistrate,
Kolar District.

B.K.M.

TELEPHONE MESSAGE.

3-15 P.M.
20th April 1930.

From

The Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District. Camp K.G.F.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government,
Bangalore.

Please	ask	the	Curator	Book
Depot	to	send	me	to
Gorgaum	tomorrow	50 copies	of	the
Police	Regulation,	with	amendments	up-to-date
for	the	use	of	Special
Police	Officers	being	appointed	to-day.

*****

Dated 30/4/32

My dear Ramanathan,

As requested in your telephone message received at 3 P.M. today, I shall arrange to send you as many copies of the Police Regulations as I can get from the Central Book Depot. I presume that the Special Police Officers, for whose use these copies are meant, do not include any members of the Auxiliary Force. The Resident, as you know, have objected to the members of this force being enrolled as special Police & I have already sent you an extract from the Residency letter on the subject.

As regards the calling up of the Battalion as such, I believe it is now fully understood that this requires the previous permission of Govt with the concurrence of the Residency. Section 130 Cr P.C. under which you purported to act on the former occasion applies only to the State Forces & does not authorise a Magistrate calling in the aid of the Auxiliary Force.

I have no doubt that there is a clear understanding now in this matter & but

the reference to "Special Police Officers" in your message called up a train of thought to which I felt I might give expression, even at the risk of appearing to repeat what, by now, must be obvious

Yrs

Guy

Sub for perusal

Dear Sir

Members yet.

21/10/20

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT,

Dated, Bangalore, 20th April xxx 1930

D.O. No.

My dear Ramanathan,

As requested in your telephone message received at 3 P.M. to-day, I shall arrange to send you as many copies of the Police Regulation as I can get from the Central Book Depot. I presume that the Special Police Officers, for whose use these copies are meant, do not include any members of the Auxiliary Force. The Residency, as you know, have objected to the members of this force being enrolled as Special Police and I have already sent you an extract from the Residency letter on the subject.

As regards the calling up of the Battalion as such, I believe it is now fully understood that this requires the previous permission of Government, with the concurrence of the Residency. Section 130 Criminal Procedure Code under which you purported to act on the former occasion applies only to the State Forces and does not authorise a Magistrate calling in the aid of the Auxiliary Force.

I have no doubt that there is a clear understanding now in this matter but the reference to "Special Police Officers" in your message called up a train of thought to which I felt I might give expression, even at the risk of appearing to repeat what, by now, must be obvious.

Yours sincerely,

Sd. N. Madhava Rao.

Chief Secretary to Government.

To

A.V.Ramanathan Esq., B.A.,
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

G. R. S. III—3]

ROUTINE NOTES.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

I. P. S. D with compliments

Herewith a letter received from the Dy Comm, Kolar enclosing a copy of a letter addressed by him to the Chief Commandant.

Col Loch is proceeding to the field this morning and will have a talk with the Dy Comm. about the requirements. He has arranged to keep 50 men of the Infantry ready but neither he nor the Dy Comm thinks that the despatch of these troops would become actually necessary.

MLL
22/4

Filed.

N. B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form

22/4/30

22-4-30

Telegrams: "SPELMAG" Phone No. "56, CHAMPION"

COMMISSIONER OF WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION,

Kolar District.

Coorgaum.
~~CHAMPION REEFS,~~
K. G. F.

No. C.C. 21/29-30 Dated 21/4/1930.

My dear Headmaster Sir

I thank you for your very kind letter sent with my clerk & for the last paragraph which from a friend like you is indeed very encouraging in my perplexing situation.

I do not propose to call out the auxiliary as a force nor its members as Special Constables. I learn on 7-4-30 that I have no authority under the Mysore Cr. P.C. to call it out & the C.O. knew that my request need not & can not be complied with. But we came to a working arrangement by mutual agreement which helped me & the Govt at a critical juncture. Now I feel I have enough ~~Strikers~~ force for "Striking" at the worst emergency, though the Police & mil[y] force is not enough for guarding & for prevention of violence, if my police Regulation order ~~[illegible]~~ setup

an unfortunate current of ill will. I have
sent my report for Boss Sepoys who kept in readiness
(vide enclosed letter).

I have now enrolled only the Punjabi
watchmen of the Mines as Special Constables
for protection of Mining property. I propose to
appoint more civilians as Special Constables
as need arises.

I am doing my best to work
cautiously but with decision & firmness.
But the end is not in sight.

Yours Sincerely

C.C.21/29-30.

(Camp) Oorgaum,
~~xxxx~~ 21st April 0.

Dear Col. Loch,

I thank you for your very kind letter of the 20th April 1930 sent through Capt. Sivaram Singh. I have issued instructions to give Capt. Sivaram Singh every facility and I have requested him to bring my notice any defects in the arrangements in the removal of which I can be of use. I shall do all that I can to make the stay of the Lancers on the Kolar Gold Field as convenient as possible. You will be interested to hear that I have been able to give protection from the sun for the horses stationed at Champion Reefs. Shady trees were already available for the horses stationed at Mundydrug and Robertsonpet.

I do not want to trouble you except at an extreme emergency. I thank you once again for your very kind assurance and support which gives me great strength and courage.

I have issued two Police Regulation orders of which I enclose copies for your reference. The orders were issued late last night. Printed copies in English and Tamil will be distributed in the course of today. What effect these orders have on the population will be known only in the course of to-morrow. I have to be prepared for adverse results and the creation of any bitterness or ill-feeling. In such a contingency the forces at my disposal are not enough, particularly for guarding the Mining properties and keeping back crowds from the European locality. The Inspector General of Police tells me that he cannot spare any more Police force. What is really needed is force for a number of standing pickets to guard various points of approach. I would require in such an event at least 16 pickets ~~xx~~ of such ~~xxxxx~~ strength as you consider adequate to keep out crowds at those points throughout the 24 hours from entering the Mining area or the European locality. I do not know how I can get any such force unless you help me by sending Barr Sepoys. I request you to very kindly find out how many Barr Sepoys can be sent for that purpose and to instruct them

to be in readiness so that they may be despatched by special or ordinary train on receipt of a message from me. I am sending a copy of this letter to the Chief Secretary to keep him informed of the matter.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

A. V. Ramanathan

To

Col. J. C. Loch, C.B.E.,
Chief Commandant, Mysore State Troops,
Hebbal, BANGALORE.

Copy to the Chief Sec'y with Compliments.
with a spare copy

21/4/30

In the Court of the District Magistrate of Kolar.

Dated, Camp Oorgaum, the 20th day of April 1930.

Present:—A. V. Ramanathan, Esq., B.A., District Magistrate.

Cr. Mis. No: Camp 2 of 1929-1930.

BY VIRTUE of the authority vested in me as District Magistrate by Section 39 of the Mysore Police Regulation, I, Mr. A. V. Ramanathan, District Magistrate of Kolar do hereby prohibit within the local limits of the areas of the five Gold Mining Companies operating on the Kolar Gold Field or the adjoining villages of Ooregum, Robertsonpet, Sonnakuppam, Masikam or Andersonpet, from the 20th day of April 1930 until the 15th day of May 1930 inclusive, the carrying of arms, cudgels or other weapons, the carrying, collection and preparation of stones or other missiles or instruments or means of casting or impelling missiles and also the delivery of harangues which may incite to the commission of an offence or to a disturbance of the public peace.

This prohibition shall not apply to Government officers, including Special Police Officers and such other individuals as are specially exempted by me or the Special Magistrate, Champion Reefs or the Munsiff Magistrate, Robertsonpet or the Special Superintendent of Police by an order in writing in respect of each individual.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Court this the twentieth day of April 1930 at Camp Oorgaum.

SEAL

A. V. RAMANATHAN,
District Magistrate,
Kolar District.

IMPERIAL PRESS, ROBERTSONPET

In the Court of the District Magistrate, Kolar District.

Dated, Camp Oorgaum, the 20th day of April 1930.

Present:—A. V. Ramanathan, Esq., B.A., District Magistrate.

Cr. Mis. No: Camp 1 of 1929-1930.

BY VIRTUE of the authority vested in me as District Magistrate by Section 45 of the Mysore Police Regulation, I, Mr. A. V. Ramanathan, District Magistrate, Kolar, do hereby direct that no public meeting or assembly of more than five persons in a public place shall be held or conducted and that no drum or tom tom be beaten within the local limits of the areas of the Five Gold Mining Companies operating on the Kolar Gold Field or the adjoining villages of Ooregum, Sonnakuppam, Robertsonpet, Masikam or Andersonpet from this day until the 15th day of May 1930, except under license from me or from the Special Magistrate, Champion Reefs or Munsiff Magistrate, Robertsonpet or the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Field.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Court this the twentieth day of April 1930 at Oorgaum.

A. V. RAMANATHAN,

District Magistrate,

Kolar District.

SEAL

IMERIAL PRESS, ROBERTSONPET.

21st/ April 1930.

4120/C.B

Dear Sir,

I write to acknowledge the receipt of 25 copies each of the Mysore Police Regulation both Kannada and English Edition, sent with your D.O.No.45 of this date.

Yours sincerely,

To

The Curator,
Govt. Central Book Depot,
Bangalore.

414/C.B

Encl: 2 Packets.

21st April 1930.

Dear Mr. Ramanathan,

As desired by you, I am sending 25 copies each of the Mysore Police Regulation both Kannada and English Edition and request that the receipt of the books may be kindly acknowledged.

Yours sincerely,

A.V.Ramanathan, Esqr., B.A.,
Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District, (Camp) K.G.F.

TELEGRAM.

To

MAHSEC,

FERNHILL.

(NILIGIRIS)

SITUATION ON KOLAR GOLD FIELD.
CONTINUES QUIET BUT NO LABOURERS
HAVE YET RETURNED TO WORK.
DEPCOM HAS CONSIDERED IT NECESSARY
TO ISSUE ORDERS PROHIBITING PUBLIC
MEETINGS OF MORE THAN FIVE
PERSONS AND ALSO THE CARRYING
OF CUDGELS OR OTHER WEAPONS.

DEWAN.

Subs for approval
NLY
21/4

NLY/21/4

Draft for
GLM/C.B
D 21/4/30

Post copies of telephone messages exchanged between the Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore and the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Camp K.G.F. on the 20th April and 21st April 1930.

C/S 3765

---

7 A.M.	Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore, Private Secretary to the Dewan of Mysore, 1st Member of Council, 2nd D.o.:- Chief Commandant, Director of Industries and Commerce.	Night passed off quiet. Patrols were increased. I went round on inspection of patrols. Mr. V. M. Ramaswami, B.A., B.L., of Kerosine Oil Worker's Union, Madras came yesterday. ~~Xxx~~ on the position being explained to him, he went back.
8.40 A.M.	To 2nd Member of Council.	I shall feel grateful if you can very kindly visit Oorgaum and stay at least tomorrow.
11.45 A.M.	From 2nd Member of Council.	Your 2nd Telephone message to hand. I am leaving this to-day at 3 P.M. and will be there between 5 & 6 P.M.
1 P.M.	To 2nd Member of Council.	Your kind message to hand at 11.45 A.M. stating you will be here by 6 P.M. today. I ~~have received~~ at 12.45 P.M. received an important letter from Mr. Nye. Your arrival anxiously awaited.
3.P.M.	To the Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore.	Kindly instruct Curator, Government Book Depot to send me at Oorgaum tomorrow fifty copies Mysore Police Regulation up to date Edition for use of Special Police officers who are being appointed to-day.

21st April 1930.

7.20 A.M.	To the Chief Secretary to the Government of Mysore, Private Secretary to the Dewan of Mysore.	Night passed off quiet. The two orders have been issued.

Memo No:C.C. 20/29-30. dated Camp Oorgaum, the 21st April 1930.

Copy of the above is forwarded with compliments to the Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore, Bangalore.

CHIEF SECRETARY 23 APR. 1930

Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

POST COPY OF TELEPHONE MESSAGES EXCHANGED BETWEEN THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE &C., AND THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, KOLAR DISTRICT (CAMP) OORGAUM. ON 22ND & 23RD APRIL 1930.

C 13787

7.15 A.M.	To the Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore, Private Secretary to the Dewan of Mysore.	Night passed off quiet. The Mine Superitendents are making attempts to get back men to work I shall report result at noon.
23rd April 1930.		
5.30 A.M.	To the Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore, Private Secretary to the Dewan of Mysore, 2nd Member of Council Chief Commandant.	All Mines except Balaghat expect some men to work. Vigorous --- patrol arranged to prevent intimidation in lines and armed guards stationed at Shaft heads. I am out inspecting. I shall report again at 9 A.M.
10.10 A.M.	To the Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore Private Secretary to the Dewan of Mysore, 2nd Member of Council, Chief Commandant.	In Mysore Mine about 400 men have returned to work, in -- Balaghat about 45. In Ooregaum about 100. None in Champion and Nundydrug. Patrol is kept up.
1 P.M.	To ChiefSecretary to the Dewan of Mysore, Private Secretary to the Dewan of Mysore, Second Member of Council.	In Mysore Mine area, a crowd of 400 persons gathered to demand the return of the men who had come to work. The crowd was -- dispersed by persuasion and without using force.

Memo No:C.C.20/29-30. Dated Camp Oorgaum, the 23rd April 1930.

Forwarded with compliments to the Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore, for information.

CB
CHIEF SECRETARY
24 APR. 1930

B.O.
N Subramaniam Clg
Camp Clerk
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.
Camp Oorgaum.

Telephone Message.

From

The Chief Secretary to Govt.
Bangalore.

To

The Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar Dist, (Camp) K.G.F.

2-50 Pm.
24/4/30.

Transmitted to A'-Sta

The Chief Commandant is arranging to despatch 50 lancers and also some infantry men. He is also proceeding to Kolar Gold Field. himself

Chief Secretary.
24.4.30.

nil
mfu

Telephone Message.

Received on 24th April 1930 at 1-40 P.M.

From

The Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government,
Bangalore.

" Malghat situation become very serious.
Fifty Lancers more are required at once."

Submitted for perusal.

As per personal instructions, the Chief Commandant has been requested to send the help asked for and also to go to the Field himself.

To be on the safe side, Col.Loch, agreed to send some 50 Infantry men who are ready.

Dewan)

24-4-30

POST COPIES OF TELEPHONE MESSAGES EXCHANGED BETWEEN THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, KOLAR DISTRICT, CAMP, OORGAUM AND THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE, BANGALORE, on 24th APRIL 1930.

---

6 A.M.	The Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore, The Private Secretary to the Dewan of Mysore, The 2nd Member of Council, The Chief Commandant.	Night passed off quiet.
10 A.M.	Do.-	Mysore Mine Coolies have stayed away today saying they cannot work until all Mines start. Balaghat has 250 men at work. Nundydrug 80. None in Oorgaum and - Champion.
1.25 P.M.	Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore, The Chief Commandant,	Balaghat situation become very serious. Fifty Barr and fifty more Lancers required at once.
2.20 P.M.	From the Chief Commandant, Mysore State Troops, Bangalore.	50 more Infantry Barr men and 50 dismounted Lancers will be despatched to K.G.F. by 1st train to-day.
2.20 P.M.	To the Chief Secretary to Government, Chief Commandant, and 2nd Member of Council.	Nundydrug crowd of 1000 dispersed by Police lathi charge and buck shot firing from Balaghat. Casualities not yet known. No deaths.
3.20 P.M.	From the Chief Secretary to to Government.	Chief Commandant is arranging to despatch 50 Lancers and also some Infantry men. He is also coming to K.G.F.

Memo No: C.C. 20/29-30 dated Camp Oorgaum, the 24th April 1930.
Forwarded with compliments to the Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore, Bangalore.

CHIEF SECRETARY, 25 APR. 1930

Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

Telephone Messages exchanged between the Deputy Commissioner Kolar and the Chief Secretary to Government, Bangalore, on 24-4-1930.

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8 A. M.	To the Chief Secretary to Government.	"Night passed off quiet."
11 A.M.	-do-	'Mysore Mines coolies have stayed away to-day saying they cannot work until all mines start. Balghat has 250 men at work and none in Oorgaum and Champion."
1-40 P.M.	--do--	'Balghat situation became very serious. Fifty Lancers more are required at once".
2-30 P.M.	-do-	'Nandydroog crowd of thousands was dispersed by Police-Lathis charge and ~~by~~ brick shot firing from Balaghat Mines. Casualities not yet known. No deaths."
2-50 P.M.	To the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District (K.G.F.)	"The Chief Commandant is arranging to despatch 60 Lancers and also some infantry men. He is also proceeding to Kolar Gold Field himself."

Memo No. 4146/C.S.

Government of H.H.the Maharaja of Mysore.
General and Revenue Secretariat.

Dated Bangalore, the 24th April 1930

Copy of the above is forwarded with compliments to the
(1) Private Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.
(2) Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

By order,

Chief Secretary to Government.

B.K.M.

DRAFT.

MAHSEC,

FERNHILL,

(NILIGIRIS)

DEPCOM KOLAR REPORTS LAST NIGHT
PASSED OFF QUIET. SINCE YESTERDAY
A FEW COOLIES CAME TO
WORK BUT AGAIN SOME HAVE
STAYED AWAY TODAY. SITUATION BECAME
SERIOUS AND DEPCOM ASKED FOR
FURTHER MILITARY HELP WHICH HAS
BEEN ARRANGED. CHIEF COMMANDANT GOING
TO FIELD ACCORDINGLY. STOP. AT
2-30 P.M. DEPCOM REPORTS NANDYDROOG CROWD
OF THOUSANDS DISPERSED BY POLICE
LATHIES AND SHOOTING FROM BALAGHAT
MINES. STOP. CASUALITIES NOT YET
KNOWN. NO DEATHS.

DEWAN.

Sent for approval
new
2-4-4

Dewan)

2/4/4

RAJ.

MAHSEC,

FERNHILL,

(NILIGIRIS)

DEPCOM KOLAR REPORTS LAST
NIGHT PASSED OFF QUIET.
SINCE YESTERDAY A FEW
COOLIES CAME TO WORK
BUT AGAIN SOME HAVE
STAYED AWAY TODAY SITUATION
BECAME SERIOUS AND DEPCOM
ASKED FOR FURTHER MILITARY
HELP WHICH HAS BEEN
ARRANGED. CHIEF COMMANDANT GOING
TO FIELD ACCORDINGLY. STOP.
AT 2-30 P.M. DEPCOM REPORTS
NANDIDROOG CROWD OF ONE
THOUSAND WAS DISPERSED BY
POLICE LATHI CHARGE AND
BUCKSHOT FIRING FROM BALACHAT
MINES. CASUALITIES NOT YET
KNOWN. NO DEATHS.

DEWAN.

24/4/30

For Chief Secretary to Government.

4147 Cy 24/4/30
CO
Confirming the above telegram

Telegram.

Deputy Commissioner

Ooregaum

Dewan intends coming to Field for a few hours on Sunday You may make this generally known He will stay Government Circuit House a room quite ample for him He will arrive about 10 o'clock and return evening He does not propose accepting hospitality of Mining Board

Desec

Dewan's Office,
Bangalore, 24.4.30

-copy-

No.3808

Bangalore,
25th April 1930.

Dear Mr. Ramanathan,

I confirm my telegram sent yesterday as follows:-

> "Dewan intends coming to Field for a few hours on Sunday. You may make this generally kknown. He will stay Government Circuit House. A room quite ample for him. He will arrive about 10 o'clock and return evening. He does not propose accepting hospitality of Mining Board"

The Dewan does not wish to accept the hospitality of the Mining people as the labourers are likely to misunderstand him. He would be glad to hear representations from anybody who wishes to make them.

Could you kindly arrange for lunch for the Dewan? Vegetarian food will quite satisfy him and he will be glad if you will let him pay for it. He will return to Bangalore in the evening after tea.

Yours sincerely,
Sd. T.Singaravelu Mudaliar

- copy -

D.O.No.C.C.24/29-30

Office of the Dy.Commissioner,
Kolar Dist.,
Camp - Oorgaum, 25th April 1930.

My dear Singaravelu,

Referring to the Dewan's visit to the Kolar Gold Field on Sunday, the 27th April 1930, I beg to suggest the following programme of engagements:-

1. On arrival, he will be received by the officers and Mr.Nye, Chairman of Messrs.John Taylor and Sons' Committee and Col.Keith, the Chairman of the Mining Board.
2. The Dewan may grant a brief interview to these two gentlemen shortly after arrival.
3. He may then go round the mine area to have a personal view of the different localities.
4. At 1 p.m., 100 elected representatives ("Panchayetdars") at 20 per mine will wait on the Dewan and represent the labour point of view.
5. At 2.30 p.m. the members of Messrs.John Taylor and Sons' Committee will meet the Dewan at the Guest House to represent their views.
6. From 3.30 p.m. the Dewan may grant interviews, if he considers it desirable, to any private gentlemen in Robertsonpet or adjoining villages and to Mining Contractors employing labour.
7. A list of six such private gentlemen will be prepared by me and submitted to the Dewan on arrival, if he so wishes, and after approval by by him, they will be intimated.

Oorgaum,

Dated 25th April 1930

My dear Singaravelu,

I am making arrangements for breakfast for the Dewan and you all at the Guest House, Oorgaum.

I note below the names of 9 gentlemen to whom the Dewan may grant interviews, if he thinks it desirable :-

1. Mr.K.Pooswamy, Contractor, Mysore Mine
2. " O.V.Rajagopal, -do- Champion Reef Mine
3. " Mini Sheik Ibrahim Sab,-do- Oorgaum Mine
4. " Meaton, -do- Nundydroog Mine
5. " Sitaram Naidu -do- Balaghat Mine
6. " Reecupchend, Marwari Banker,Robertsonpet
7. " Bhashyakarlu, Excise Contractor, Robertsonpet
8. " Rajagopala Rao, Advocate, Robertsonpet
9. " Narasinga Rao, Pleader, Robertsonpet

Kindly telephone to me tomorrow if the programme in the other letter and this list are approved.

Yours sincerely,

Sd. A. V. Ramanathan

-copy-

Telephone message

From

The Dy.Commissioner, Kolar, K.G.F.

To

The Private Secretary to Dewan.

One meat seller's hut was burnt last night at Balaghat. All the injured persons of yesterday are improving. The two serious cases have passed danger.

25.4.30 -copy

Telephone Message.

(Received on 24-4-1930 at 10 P.M.)

From

The Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

To

(1) The Chief Secretary to Government.
(2) The Second Member of Council.
(3) The Private Secretary to the Dewan of Mysore.

" 20 men injured. Only 2 of them are serious. One abdominal perforation and another contusion of the brain due to fall and not shot. Resaldar Tarabat Singh, Inspector Vasudeva and some constables hit by stones."

(Received on 25-4-1930 at 3 A.M.)

To

The Chief Secretary to Government.

"Night passed off quiet. Crowd of one or two thousand in Robertsonpet yesterday evening dispersed without the use of the force."

(Received on 25-4-1930 at 11 A.M.)

"One meatseller's shop was burnt last night at Balaghat. All the injured persons of yesterday are improving. The two serious cases are passed danger."

Submitted for perusal.

4169/C.B 25/4/30

Confirming the above

B.K.M.

Draft.

MAHSEC;

FERNHILL,

(NILIGIRIS)

DEPCOM KOLAR REPORTS TWENTY INJURED YESTERDAYS
POLICE CHARGE AND SHOOTING. INJURED PERSONS
IMPROVING STOP. TWO SERIOUS CASES are
PAST DANGER. ~~RESALDAR TARABAT SINGH INSPECTOR~~
~~VASUDEVAN SOME CONSTABLES HIT BY STONES.~~
NIGHT PASSED OFF QUIET. ~~CROWD~~ OF
~~THOUSAND DISPERSED WITHOUT FORCE IN ROBERTSONPET.~~
~~ONE MEATSELLERS SHOP AT BALAGHAT BURNT~~
~~LAST NIGHT.~~ No further developments reported today

DEWAN.

Subs for approval

25/4

RAJ.

MAHSEC,

FERNHILL,

(NILIGIRIS)

Depcom	Kolar	reports	twenty
injured	yesterdays	Police	charge
and	shooting	injured	persons
improving	stop	two	serious
cases	are	past	danger

night	passed	off	quiet
no	further	developments	reported
today			

Dewan

Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore

General and Revenue Secretariat.

Memo No. 4164/CS. Dated Bangalore, the 25th April 1930.

Post copy of the above is forwarded with compliments to the Private Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

By order,

25/4/30

For Chief Secretary to Government.

B.K.M.

3837

Please put these
a Copy of this letter

Chief Secy
with Compts
26-4-30

18782
1/5

Subsidy for Bunsal

10506
28/4

Dewan
Member for ✓

26/4

Message received at 9-30 A.M
today states that the situation is
quiet

6256
10/5

1/5/30

9/5/30

In all future correspondence please quote
No. C.C.20/29-30.
Encl. Enc. Two.

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT,

(Camp) Oorgaum,
Dated, ~~Kolar~~, the 25th April 1930.

DEWAN'S OFFICE
29 APR. 1930
4593

OFFICE OF THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL
8 MAY 1930
No. 8354

FROM

A. V. RAMANATHAN, ESQ., B.A.,
Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

To

N. MADHAVA RAO, ESQ., B.A., B.L.,
Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore,
Bangalore.

3837

SIR,

In continuation of my telephone messages in the matter of the dispersal of an unlawful assembly in Balaghat Mine area on the 24th April 1930, I have the honor to submit herewith the reports of the Munsiff Magistrate, Kolar GoldFields and the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Field in the matter together with a list of the persons who were injured and to state as follows:-

2. As reported in my earlier telephone message yesterday, 250 persons of Balaghat Mine went to work. Hearing this the strikers in the other Mines despite ~~of~~ Police patrol in these areas evaded the Police and came in large numbers and collected into a huge crowd near the Railway overbridge near Coromandel Railway Station. Before this, information had been received that about 200 people had arrived by 10.30 Train from Marikuppam side and got into Balaghat Cooly lines to intimidate the coolies and the families and induce them to recall from work the 250 people that had gone to work. On hearing this the Munsiff Magistrate, Kolar Gold Field who had been placed by me in Magisterial charge of the Balaghat and Nundydrug and Oorgaum areas went to the spot and took the situation in hand. When I proceeded in my rounds to the spot with the Special Superintendent of Police, the crowd which the Munsiff Magistrate had attempted to keep back had also entered the lines. We immediately tried to get the outsiders out of the Cooly lines. We also telephoned for reinforcements of Police and Military. Despite assistance of Police officers, the local families would not give up the dispute. While we were getting

the outsiders out of the Cooly lines and had just sent away some of them and arrested and let on bail two of the crowd, another hostile-crowd came up as already mentioned. This crowd increased in numbers to over a thousand in the course of about 15 minutes. I took over the situation in the Cooly lines with a Lancers' Contingent ~~y~~ and a few Constables and sent all the other - officers with a contingent of Special Constables, ordinary and Reserve Constables and half the military to deal with the crowd of a thousand to prevent its getting near the - Cooly lines and the Mine property. The Munsiff Magistrate's ~~report~~ and the Special Superintendent ~~of Police~~ report give the further details. In spite of the steady persuasion for over two hours the crowd refused to budge and was -- determined on getting back the workmen and intimidating the coolies and their families in the Balaghat lines. Though I was not with the officers who dispersed the crowd, having had to take the responsibility for a hostile crowd in the Cooly lines which was being sheltered by the residents of the lines despite ~~of~~ persuasion and as I had to see to the protection of the Taylor's and Tennent's shafts and other Mining properties close to the line and further as I had to keep the crowd in check lest it should attack the Police and the officers dealing with the ~~larger~~ other crowd, from the rear, I am perfectly satisfied that every effort was made to disperse the crowd by persuasion before the Lathi charge was ordered and that firing was not resorted to until the Police were assaulted with stones and firing became absolutely necessary. Firing ceased as soon as the crowd showed a real sign of dispersing. The Military though they were ~~xxx~~ in readiness were not used either by the Munsiff Magistrate in dealing with the crowd of 1000 or by me in dealing with the crowd in the Cooly Lines. The outsiders in the Cooly lines went away after the other crowd was dispersed.

Inspector Vasudevan who was posted for duty in the Balaghat Mine area for the last one week was hurt by a stone and Risaldar Zarover Singh who was my Liason Officer and whom

I sent to command the Military working with the Munsiff Magistrate was also hurt by several stones. A ~~number~~ few of Reserve Constables also received petty injuries.

Both the crowds were definitely hostile to Governmental authority and ~~by~~ were openly abusing the Government and its officers.

I have the honor to be,
S i r,
Your most obedient servant,

Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

Letter No:Confidential No:1 of 29-30 dated 25th April 1930from the Munsiff and First Class Magistrate, K.G.F. Robertsonpet to the District Magistrate, Kolar District, Kolar.

I have the honor to submit the following report about the firing that took place yesterday at Balaghat at about 1.30 P.M.

When I was at the Nundydrug Institute at 10.45 A.M. on 24th April 1930 information was received from Balaghat and from the Police Patrol on that side that a large number of men were proceeding towards Balaghat from Robertsonpet side and along the Railway Line. The Police lorry was at Nundydrug Institute. Myself and Mr. Rahiman Khan, Inspector asked the men to fallin and after telephoning the information to the D.S.P's office for communicating to the I.G.P. D.C. and D.S.P. we left the Institute at 11 A.M. along with Mr. Andertson of the Reserve Police.

On reaching the overbridge near Coromandel Railway Station, we observed a large number of men crossingthe station yard towards Taylor's Shaft, while about a hundred men were near the fencing on the left hand side. The dismounted cavalry men of the Special Patrol were trying to prevent those men from crossing the Railway Line and mahy of them were actually engaged in a scuffle amidst the men in front. Messrs: Anderton and Rahiman Khan extricated them. I directed the cavalry men to fall back and was advising the crowd there to retrace its steps. While I was so engaged, some more men who came from behind crossed the Railway line and rushed towards Balaghat. On looking towards Taylor's shaft then, I found a big crowd near the cooly lines, I decided to proceed there at once with Military Bus. The District Magistrate and theDistrict Superintendent of Police came up just as we were going down the over bridge and some European officer of the Balaghat Mine told the District Magistrate that the situation in the Cooly lines was alarming. He was told that the Magistrste in charge of Balaghat was also proceeding to the spot with him.

Myself, the District Magistrate and the Special Superintendent of Police, reached the spot simultaneously. The crowd took up its stand opposite us infront of the cooly lines.There were nearly 1,500 men in it. Attempts to disperse them with the force available on hand led to the hooligans of the other Mines threatening to

to attack the sheds. Reinforcements were found necessary and it was nearly 12 Noon, by the time mounted and dismounted cavalry men and additional Police arrived. At this juncture a big crowd was rushing towards Balaghat from the Henry Shaft lines. The - District Magistrate himself drove it back effectively since myself and the D.S.P. were holding the situation under control within the lines. On coming out from there ~~xxxx~~ we observed a crowd approaching from the direction of Coromandel Railway Station. This was sent back by lathi men but it took a firm stand near Coromandel, RailwayStation. The men from Henry Shaft lines referred to above came up from behind and joined this crowd. It swelled ~~xxxxxxxx~~ to about 1000 , while about 3000 persons (including the Balaghat Coolies) took their stand in front of the cooly lines facing the East. The District Magistrate then directed me to take charge of the crowd near the Railway Station and to disperse it. He added that he would deal with the ~~xxx~~ crowd in front of the lines.

The crowds from the other mines had collected there with the object of intimidating the Balaghat coolies and of forcing the - Balgaht Company to bring up the hundred and odd men that had gone down for work yesterday morning. The D.S.P. joined me later near Coromandel Railway Station. Our attempts for nearly two hours in pursuading the mob to disperse proved of no avail. My warning to them too was of no avail. The crowd at first insisted on the release of the two persons that had been arrested near the lines after I left that spot. Though this was granted they declined to disperse until the Balaghat coolies were brought up. The crowds on both sides were increasing every moment and the huge crowd near the lines too was becoming restive. The - crowd near the Railway Station was formally declared an unlawful - assembly. The final warning was given by me to the effect that lathi men would be used against them first if they did not disperse, that - firing would be resorted to afterwards and that it would be effective. The lathi men were asked to disperse the crowd by force. It was - nearly 1-30 P.M. then. Their attempt was met with a volley of stones and brick bats. The only course left open was to order firing by the reserve police. I did so and Inspector Mr.Anderton was in charge of

in charge of firing. Firing was stopped as soon as the crowd began to disperse. This firing had a good effect on the huge crowd near Balaghat lines also and it melted away gradually.

I came to know yesterday evening that 3 to 4 hundred persons got down at Coromandel railway station from the train which reaches it at about 10-30 A.M. from Marikuppam side. These must be the leaders from the Mysore, Champion Reef and Oorgaum camps.

I visited the Civil Hospital this afternoon and learnt there that 20 persons who had received injuries in yesterday's incident were admitted and that only one case was declared some what serious. I am so far aware that Police Inspector Mr. Vasudevan was hurt by a stone. Some Comstables are said to have sustained trivial injuries.

"C o p y"

WD.546—GPB—50,000—4-9-28

From

S. Narayana Rao, Esqr, M.A. Hons
Special Superintendent of Police
Kolar Gold Field.

To

The District Magistrate,
Kolar District,
Camp Oorgaum.

Dated. 24-4-30.

Despatched

Received

General No. Ce no 75
No. 29-30

Enclosure No.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the following report regarding the firing that took place today at Balaghat at about 1-30 P. M. As you are aware, the Munsiff Magistrate and myself had to deal with the crowd of about a thousand coolies that had gathered near the Coromandel Railway station with the object of intimidating the Balaghat coolies and forcing the Company authorities to bring up the hundred and odd workmen that had gone underground for work this mroning. We spent nearly two hours in persuading the mob to disperse but to no purpose. The crowd at first insisted on the release of two persons who had been arrested earlier for riotious behaviour and even after their request was complied with by letting out

out gradually. Police Inspector Vasudevan was hurt by a stone and Resaldar Zoravara Singh, who was with the Lancers who had been kept in Reserve behind the Reserve Police, was also pelted with stones. Some of the Reserve Police have also received some trivial injuries. I append hereto a list of persons said to have been injured by the firing.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant.

S. [signature]

Special Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Field.

List o persons admitted to the Civil Hospital, Kolar Gold Fields for treatment of Gun.shot wounds receivedon 24-4-30.

---

1. Jaganathan, S/o Mariamma, Machine Cooly, Henry Shart line, N-droog
2. Perumal, Henry Shaft lines Nundydroog,
3. Govindaraj, Black stone picker, Nundydroog.
4. Muniyan, ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ Henry Shat line, N-droog.
5. Lazarus, A. Block Line, Champion Reefs,
6. Sabee b/o Sheik Iman, Electric line, Nundydroog.
7. Kullan, Kanady Shaft lines, Nundydroog.
8. Munisami, Mechanic Cooly, Oorgaum Village.
9. Hussein Sab, Watchman, Cooly line, Balaghat.
10. T. V. Muniyan, Gaze Road Cooly, Nundydroog.
11. Ramalingam, Machine Cooly, 9 Block, Champion Reefs.
12. S. Dorasami, Henry Shat line, Nundydroog.
13. G. Krishnasami, Gaze Road Cooly, Kanady Shat line, Nundydroog.
14. Munisami a Soolangi, Mud Cooly, Henry Shaft line Nundydroog.
15. Devan, Cooly Gudsi, Oorgaum Village.
16. D. Sangamy, Door Boy No.48, Henry Shaft line, Nundydroog.
17. Kollapuri, Machine Cooly, Henry Shat line, Nundydroog.
18. Poopalli, Timber Cooly, Nundydroog.
19. A. Chinnappan, Mud Cooly, Henry Shaft line, Nundydroog.
20. Baba, Hnad Jumper Cooly, Balaghat.

Mr. A. Vasudevan, Prosecuting Inspector of Police, K.G.F(Stone Mt)

S. "

S. S. P.
K. G. F.
24.4.30.

POST COPY OF TELEPHONE MESSAGES EXCHANGED BETWEEN THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER. KOLAR DISTRICT (CAMP) OORGAUM, AND THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE, ON 24th & 25th April 1930.

24-4-1930. 9 P.M.	Chief Secretary, to Government, Private Secretary to the Dewan and the Second Member of Council.	20 men injured. Only two of them serious. One -- abdominal perforation and another concussion of brain due to fall and not shot. Rásaldar Zorawar Singh, Inspector Vasudevan and some Constables hit by stones.
25-4-1930. 6.45 A.M.	The Chief Secretary to Government, The Private Secretary to the Dewan of Mysore, 2nd Member of Council.	Night passed off quiet. Crowds of one to two -- thousand in Robertsonpet yesterday evening dispersed without use of force.
10-40 A.M.	Chief Secretary to Government, Private Secretary to the Dewan, 2nd Member of Council.	One beef seller's hut burnt last night in Balaghat. All

injured persons of yesterday are improvin

The two serious cases are past danger.

Memo No:C.C.20/29-30. dated Camp Oorgaum, the 25th April 1930.

Forwarded with compliments to the Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore, Bangalore, for information.

Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

Bangalore,

26th April 1930

Dear Mr. Ramanathan,

I have both your letters of the 25th which I have duly laid before the Dewan. He will be pleased to grant interviews to the gentlemen named in your letter. The programme of engagements you have arranged for tomorrow, the Dewan thinks is quite all right.

Yours sincerely,

Sd. T. Singaravelu Mudaliar

-copy-

Telephone message.

From

The Dy.Commissioner, Kolar (K.G.F.)

To

The Private Secretary to Dewan

Situation is fairly quiet.

26.4.30

copy

Confidential

POLICE DEPARTMENT.

No. C.2629/29

Encs.

OFFICE OF THE
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE IN MYSORE.
Camp Oorgaum
Dated, Bangalore, 26-4-30 *193*

D 3819

FROM

S. HIRIANNAIYA, ESQ., M.A., B.L.,
Inspector-General of Police in Mysore,
Bangalore.

CHIEF SECRETARY.
28 APR. 1930

TO

N.Madhava Rao,Esq.,B.A.,B.L.,
Chief Secretary to Government,
Bangalore

SIR,

With reference to the letter of the Deputy Commissione Kolar (No.C.C.20/29-30 dated the 25th inst) regarding the - - dispersing of an unlawful assembly in Balaghat Mine on the 24th inst. I have the honour to state that the use of force was absolu necessary to disperse the hostile crowd and that fire had to be opened only as a last resort when every other means of persuading - the crowd to disperse had failed. Only the minimum amount of force has been used. Happily the casualties were not serious. The - patients are all doing well and even the one man who was thought to have been seriously hurt is past danger. The situation is - completely under control but the differences between the Mining - Companies and Labour have resulted in a stalemate. It is hoped - however that a solution satisfactory to both parties will soon be - reached. Several arrests have been made in connection with the riots and the cases are under investigation.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

Inspector General of Police

8245
1/5

Submitted for perusal.

Hon'ble Member

CHIEF SECRETARY.
29 APR. 1930

G. R. S. III—3]

ROUTINE NOTES.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

Memo from Comm. Revenue 27/4/30 4 Pm

CM of

Notice

Out of deference
to the wishes of the
Dewan of Mysore, Messrs
John Taylor & Sons, Contractors
Kolar Gold Mines, announce that
they have decided to
Abolish the System
of fining Subordinate
& Skilled workmen
& their employees
& also the Surface Coolies
& Office
Ralph Nagle

Copies have been sent to
Secretariat Members of Council & File

27/4

N.B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips the notes must be cipoed, or slips pasted on this form

TELEPHONE MESSAGE.

27th April 1930

4 P.M.

From

The Deputy Commissioner,

Kolar District.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government,

Bangalore.

N O T I C E.

Out of deference to the wishes of the Dewan of Mysore, Messrs. John Taylor & Sons Committee hereby announce that they have decided to abolish the system of obtaining signatures or thumb impressions of their employees and also the employment office.

Sd/- Ralph Nye.

Message received on 28th April 1930.

****

Almost all coolies have returned to work.

"Copy."

~~submitted~~ to

27th April 1930.

In connection with the Kolar Gold Field strike, the Dewan of Mysore visited the Kolar Gold Field this morning. On arrival at the Guest House, Kolar Gold Fields, a deputation of the Mining Board met the Dewan and had an informal talk with him. Immediately afterwards the Dewan motored through the Mining area for about two hours and visited the various cooly lines in the Mining area and met about 5,000 coolies at different centres and heard their various representations. He met the coolies again at the Guest House at about 12 Noon, when 750 to 1,000 workers were present and made a free representation of all their grievances. The Dewan listened to them patiently and promised to see that their grievances received due consideration. At 2-30 P.M. he met the Mining authorities again and after a long and free discussion, the Mining authorities, out of deference to the Dewan's wishes decided to abolish the system of obtaining the signature or finger impression of their employees as also the employment office. This decision was announced to the labourers and it gave them the utmost satisfaction. Almost all the labourers have, it is reported, resumed work.

27th April 1930:- In connection with the Kolar Gold Field strike, the Dewan of Mysore visited the Kolar Gold Field ~~in~~ this morning ~~and was received at~~ Bowringpet ~~by the~~ Deputy Commissioner and the Special Superintendent of Police. On arrival at the Guest House, Kolar Gold Fields, a deputation of the Mining Board met the Dewan and had an informal talk with him. Immediately afterwards the Dewan motored through the Mining area for about two hours ~~during~~ and visited the various cooly lines in the Mining area and met about 5,000 coolies at different centres and heard their various representations. ~~He also asked Messrs. John Taylor & Sons' Committee and~~ he met the coolies again at the Guest House at about 12 Noon, when 750 to 1,000 workers were present and made a free representations of all their grievances. The Dewan listened to them ~~sympathetically~~ patiently and promised to see that their grievances were ~~sympathetically~~ carefully considered. At 2.30 P.M. he met the Mining authorities again and after a long and ~~informal~~ frank discussion, the Mining authorities out of deference to the Dewan's wishes ~~agreed~~ decided to abolish the system. of ~~taking~~ obtaining the signature or the finger impression of their employees as also the employment office. ~~This formed the main cause of the present trouble and it is hoped that the coolies~~ will resume work tomorrow. Conditions are perfectly normal and the Kolar Gold Field wears ~~on~~ a holiday ~~mood~~.

His decision was announced to the assembled Labourers who almost all represented men (illegible) to the Dewan's satisfaction & promise

Almost all the labourers left the [illegible]

No. 2054 - 74 | P.O.

OFFICE OF THE PUBLICITY OFFICER
TO GOVERNMENT, PUBLIC OFFICES,
BANGALORE.

PRESS COMMUNIQUE.

28th. April 1930.

In connection with the Kolar Gold Field strike, the Dewan visited the Kolar Gold Field yesterday morning. On arrival at the Guest House, a deputation of the Mining Board met the Dewan and had an informal talk with him. Immediately afterwards, the Dewan motored through the Mining area for about two hours and visited the various cooly lines and met about 5,000 labourers at different centres and heard their representations. He met the workmen again at the Guest House at about 12 Noon, when 750 to 1,000 men were present and made a free representation of all their grievances. The Dewan listened to them patiently and promised to see that their grievances received due consideration. At 2-30 P.M. he met the Mining authorities again and after a long and frank discussion, the Mining authorities, in deference to the Dewan's wishes, decided to abolish the system of obtaining the signature or finger impression of their employees as also the Employment Office. This decision was announced to the labourers and it gave them the utmost satisfaction. Almost all the labourers have, it is reported, resumed work this morning.

R. RANGA RAO,
Publicity Officer to the Govt. of Mysore.

WD 8152—GPB—150—28-4-30

Telegram sent to First Member of Council on

28th April 1930.

First Member,

Bhadravati.

Depcom Kolar reports that almost all workmen have returned to work following yesterday's announcement that finger print system and employment office have been abolished

Chisec"

Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

General and Revenue Secretariat.

Memo No. 4173-79/eB.

Dated Bangalore, the 28th April 1930.

Copy of the above is forwarded with compliments to the Secretaries to Government.

By order,

Chief Secretary to Government.

B.K.M.

Telephone Message.

9.15. a.m.
29th April 1930.

From

The Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District,
Camp K.G.F.

To

The Private Secretary
to the Dewan of Mysore,
B a n g a l o r e.

Everything is quiet. All the Mines are working. Those who were arrested were released yesterday morning to join work. Have taken steps to send the Military by instalments. Two hundred will leave tomorrow.

Submitted

29.4.30.

Memo No. 957.

Copy of the message sent to Mys & Civil & Mil Gazette

(signed) K 29/4

Telephone Message.

10.25. a.m.
29th April 1930.

From

The Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District,
Camp K.G.F.

To

The Private Secretary
to the Dewan of Mysore,
B a n g a l o r e.

Persons under arrest were released on their own recognizance on the usual bail, the first thing yesterday morning to enable them to rejoin work and earn wages.

Submitted

28
29.4.30

29/4

Telegram.

TO

Mahasec

Fernhill

Niligiris.

Depcom Kolar reports that
Everything is quiet. all mines are working, ~~Shops~~
Military are being withdrawn gradually

Dewan.

Issue
Nil
9/4

MAHASEC

FERNHILL

NILGIRIS

DEPCOM	KOLAR	REPORTS	THAT
EVERYTHING	IS	QUIET	ALL
MINES	ARE	WORKING	MILITARY
ARE	BEING	WITHDRAWN	GRADUALLY

DEWAN

ISSUED.

Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

Memo No. 4193/C.S. General and Revenue Secretariat.

Dated Bangalore, the 29th April 1930

Post copy of the above is forwarded with compliments to the Private Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

By order,

29/4/30

For Chief Secretary to Government

B.K.M.

D.O. No. 3875
Encls.

Bangalore,
1st May 1930.

C 13860

Dear Mr. Madhava Rao,

I am desired to enclose you for information and record copies of Sir Charles Todhunter's letter No.113 of the 30th ultimo, and of the cablegram received from Mr. Henry Taylor, London, regarding the termination of the strike in the Kolar Gold Fields.

Yours sincerely,
Rangaraudu

Sent for perusal

Fernhill, Ootacamund,

D.O.No.113 30th April 1930.

My dear Mirza,

I am desired to acknowledge the receipt of your telegrams of the 28th and 29th instant, recording the eminently satisfactory result of your visit to the Kolar Goldfields and the resumption of work at all mines, and to say that His Highness the Maharaja desires to congratulate you on this most successful issue of your intervention in the dispute.

Yours sincerely,

Sd. C. G. Todhunter.

COPY

Copy of cablegram dated 30th April 1930 from Mr. Henry Taylor, London, to the Dewan of Mysore, Bangalore.

I thank you sincerely for cable received today. Have promptly endorsed and entirely approve action of our representatives in acceding to your special request. It is a great relief to know that chance of future trouble may be eliminated and we highly appreciate Goverrment kindly offer of assistance to this end. May I with great respect thank Government and yourself for cordial co-operation and unstinted help throughout the trying period. Sincere regards.

"COPY"

In all future correspondence please quote
No. C.C.20/29-30.
Encl. Seven.

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT,
(Camp) Oorgaum,
Dated, Kolar, the 1st May 193 0.

FROM

A. V. RAMANATHAN, ESQ., B.A.,
Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

D 3855
CS 159-29-20

To

N. Madhava Rao, Esq., B.A., B.L.,
Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore,
Bangalore.

SIR,

I have the honor to submit herewith for the info Government, a self narrative report on the Kolar Gold Field general strike - April 1930. This report is not exhaustive in itself as I have given greater details in my letters to Government from time to time and in my telephonic communications of each day which have been separately confirmed.

In submitting this report, I beg to bring to the kind notice of the Government the specially good and arduous work done by Mr. S. Narayana Rao, Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Field, but for whose cool, thorough intelligent and enthusiastic help, it would not have been possible for me to tide over this unprecedented situation extending over three weeks, with so few incidents. His powers of organisation and his mastery of detail proved of great value at this juncture. I recommend therefore that the Government may be pleased to bestow on him the special grade of pay which was attached to this appointment in the time of his predecessor Mr. S. M. Pritchard.

I commend also for the consideration of the Government, the good work done by Messrs: Vedavyasacharya and S. Krishnamurthi, the Munsiff Magistrate, who had discharged responsible duties with credit to themselves. Mr. Krishnamurthi was detained by me on duty without utilising his vacation from the 6th April 1930 to the 1st of May 1930 both inclusive. (Vide my letters No:C.C.21/29-30 dated 6th April 1930 to the Law Secretary and also the Chief Court Registrar's letter No:R.

O.C. 1197/29-30 dated 8th April 1930.).

I have the honor to be,
S i r,
Your most obedient servant,

Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

finger impressions and if necessary to remove them so as to avoid the misunderstanding by labour. The Committee at first said that the tamil notice need not call for serious thought but subsequently agreed to take active steps to dispel misapprehension and to arrange that a responsible officer was present when finger prints were taken. (Vide my letter No:C. C.20/29-30 dated 3rd April 1930).

The Committee accordingly issued a Tamil printed notice explaining clearly the meaning and significance of the registration and finger prints and pointing out that it was merely for the purposes of identification and did not involve either indenture or slavery, or any other liability or restriction in the change of employment.

On the 3rd April 1930, the Superintendent of Police reported that 400 men stayed away from work in the Ooregaum Mine. On the 4th I learnt that in addition to the 400 men of Ooregaum another 300 in that Mine and 300 more of Nundydrug had struck work and that more were likely to do so and that the coolies of the Ooregaum Mine were not satisfied with the notice already published and wanted the discontinuance of the new system and the return of the slips already taken. I immediately proceeded to Ooregaum. A notice was again found that morning calling up on all people to stay away from work the next day. In the meantime at a meeting that noon, the Committee had revised their plan of their registration giving up finger prints in the case of all Company labour already on the book and requiring finger prints only in respect of new labour and in respect of Contractors' labour if they wanted service gratuity. They also agreed to return the finger prints of such coolies as wanted them back. The strike however spread and all the coolies stayed away from work on the 5th April in both these Mines. I received a telephone the same day requesting me to defer availing myself of the leave until the situation on the Field became normal. I went through the lines and explained to the people that the Com-

panies

had done and pointed out that that was all that could reasonably be expected. I have continuously stayed on the Field since the 5th April. On the 6th labour was holding meetings and attempting to get ather Mines to join. I did my best to counteract it. By midnight however, it was fairly clear that all the Mines would join in the strike the next day. I reported this to the Government in a letter that night and explained the situation in detail and asked for Military force being kept in readiness and for additional Police. (Vide C.C.20/29-30 dated 6-4-1930). On the 7th there was a general strike. The same morning, I received the following message from the Private Secretary to the Dewan:- "If you feel the slightest need for more Police or Military, Dewan wants you not to hesitate to ask for them"). Early that morning, I heard that there was a crowd in the Mysore Mine timber yard which was nasty. But the Police and the Special Magistrates succeeded in dispersing them. When I went to the Mine all was quiet except for the wild talk of several irresponsible youths. I induced five persons out of them to inspect their finger print slips and then destroy them. And after dispersing the crowd returned to the Guest House to be in touch with the entire area. Meanwhile the Special Superintendent of Police and the Magistrate went to deal with a meeting of 6000 labour in Robertsonpet and succeeded in dispering it peacefully.

But when the Officers were touring in the area afterwards, there came across a wild crowd beseized the Madrasi Watchmen line in the Mysore Mine and preventing the watchmen from going to work. This had to be dispersed by lathi charge and shooting (Vide my letter No:C.C.20/29-30 dated 8th April 1930). On hearing of this and in view of the grossly insufficient nature of the force at my disposal and pending the arrival of the Lancers from Bangalore, for whom I had telephoned early in the morning, I arranged with the Commanding Officer of theA. F. I. Detatchment, K.G.F., to mobilise his detatchment and keep it in readiness to help in dispersing unlawful assemblies. The A. F. I. Detatchment was not used and was demobilised on 8th April 1930 on

receipt of the Mysore Military.

The rest of the day was quiet. Same evening the Second Member of Council and the Inspector General of Police arrived. By the 7th, theCommittee had decided on the destruction of the finger print slips instead of their return and this led to -- further suspicion.

For the next one week, I was busily engaged in preventing breaches of the peace, and securing labour to elect representatives and present their grievances to the Management and ensuring that good will continued between the Labour and the Management and in allaying suspicion. Meantime on the 10th April, the Superintendents of the several Mines in order to alla syspicion handed over to me for scrutiny and destruction all the finger print slips that had not been claimed by labourers until that date. They were destroyed by me in public on the 10th - April after showing the slips of all the persons who came and asked for them and explained the contents to them. Several slips were caused to be read and explained by a person in the crowd who was literate in English. By the 12th April the representations of all labourers were before the Committee and on the 15th at a meeting in the Ooregaum Hall, the Management announced -- their decision to the representatives of the Labour. In that they refused strike pay and stated that in respect of Provident Fund there were difficulties in its institution; and in respect of the main grievance, the Management changed the Central Labour Register into Employment office, abolished finger printing except where it had been required prior to January 1930 and substituted a Mine disc in place of the Central Labour disc. But they insisted on signature or the left thumb impression, in respect of Contractors' labour and all new labour.

It was soon apparent that the continuance of the Employment office and the requirement of signature or left thumb impression in the case of the Contractors' labour and of new labour was - resented by the labourers. This was explained by me to the Management and also reported to Government on the 17th April. (Vide

also my letter No:C.C.20/29-30 dated 18th April 1930 to the Second Member). The Management however continued adamant on that issue. Labourers began to ask to be paid up to date with a view to leave for their homes. A number of coolies began to leave from the 15th.

The Mining Companies on their part tried to secure some persons to resume work. On the 19th about 80 men of Nundydrug came to work at 9 A.M. but their women and a 1000 other strikers came at 12 Noon and demanded the return of the men. The crowd took an ugly turn but the Superintendent promised to send back the men. When they came up from underground the crowd dispersed without the use of force. One Mr. V. M. Ramaswami, B.A., B.L., President of the Kerosine Oil workers Union, Madras, came to the Field that day and wanted permission to hold a general meeting of the labourers. But on the situation being explained to him he went back.

On the 20th, Messrs: John Taylor & Sons' Committee wrote urging for action under the Police Regulation to prevent meetings and of moving crowds armed with lathis &c., which went about to intimidate workers who were willing to resume work. After anxiously considering the situation and also consulting the local officers and taking the advice of the Inspector General of Police who was on the spot and of the Second Member of Council who again arrived that evening, I decided to issue necessary orders under Sections 39 and 45 of the Mysore Police Regulation. (Copies enclosed). (Vide also my letter No:C.C.21/29-30 dated 21st April 1930 to Col. Loch, Chief Commandant and Chief Secretary). I appointed also 226 special constables, 5 head constables and one Station House officer in view of the situation.

On the 23rd about 400 men returned to work in Mysore Mine and 45 in Balaghat. In Ooregaum about 100 men registered their names but work was not resumed. At about 1 Noon that day a crowd of 400 persons gathered in the Mysore Mine area to demand the return of the men who had come to work. But the crowd was dispersed by persuasion and without using force. Later however it was found

the crowd, the moment they saw it and even while the Police were dealing with it. On the 24th, about 250 men went to work in Balaghat Mine. The situation was quiet till about 10 A.M. But after that, strikers from Mundydrug Mine particularly and from other Mines began to pour from the Balaghat area to demand return of the men. About 200 persons arrived by the 10.30 A.M. train and got into the Balaghat Cooly Lines to intimidate the families to get back their men. The Munsiff Magistrate on learning of this proceeded to the spot to deal with the situation. On my rounds, the Special Superintendent of Police and myself heard of the trouble and rushed to the spot. Meantime another 250 people came and were about to enter the Balaghat Lines. We succeeded in sending them out and were engaged in getting out the 200 people who had previously got into the Lines. The work was difficult as the inmates of the Lines harboured these men and did not help in pointing out the strangers. By about 12 Noon another crowd appeared from the Mundydrug side and I posted special constables and reserve constables to block their passage. Meantime re-inforcements of Military and Police had arrived. But the outer crowd also got re-inforced and now numbered 1000. I deputed the Munsiff Magistrate and the Special Superintendent of Police to attend to that crowd, I myself being in charge of the Balaghat line crowd, the whole of which was now hostile, to prevent its joining the outer crowd and attacking the Military and Police from the rear, and to protect the Mine properties. Inspite of persuasion for over two hours the crowd could not be dispersed without lathi charge and shooting by the Police. (Vide my letter No:C.C.20 of 25th April 1930 in the matter). I immediately telephoned for additional Military help in view of the changing temper of the crowds. The same night a butcher's stall in Balaghat was burnt.

The Dewan telegraphed the same day announcing that he would visit the Kolar Gold Field onSunday the 27th and asking me to give wide publicity which was done.

On the 25th and 26th there was a general feeling of expectancy of the Dewan's visit and I was engaged in allaying the suspicions of labour about the thumb impression or signature and issuing public endorsements (Copy enclosed).

On the morning of the 27th when I left for Bowringpet to await the Dewan's arrival, ~~this~~ two Punjabi Watchmen were severely assaulted by certain coolies in the Ooregaum Village --- a further indication that the situation was getting ugly.

The Dewan's visit, however, changed the situation entirely. His visit to the Lines and his patient hearing of labourer's grievances both in the Lines and at the Guest House touched their hearts. By his kind intercession, the Committee decided to abolish the system of obtaining the signature or thumb impression of their employees and also the Employment Office.

The announcement of this decision gave widespread satisfaction and the Dewan was given a magnificient send off by the labourers on his return to Bangalore.

On the 28th April all labour returned to work and the strike was at an end.

The Sanitary Board Conservancy staff attended to the sanitation of the Mundydrug ~~and~~ Balaghat and Mysore Mines during a Major portion of the strike period under the direction of --: Dr. Peidpet.

Throughout the period of the strike the situation was kept carefully under control by the capable management of Mr.S. Narayana Rao, the Special Superintendent of Police on whom the responsibility for all the arrangements personally devolved. His coolness, intelligence and thoroughness in organisation and dealing with the situation could not easily have been excelled. Messrs: Vedavyasacharya and S. Krishnamurthi, the two Magistrates who bore the brunt of the work acquitted themselves creditably and showe d exemplary patience in dealing with the crowds. That there were two unfortunate instances necessitating shooting does not detract from the ability of these officers. On the contrary,

I am fully satisfied that but for their care and anxiety to avoid the use of force the situation would have been much worse and the use of force would have been necessary on several other occasions. That the unprecedented strike of 18,000 labourers -- extending over three weeks passed off with so few incidents, is due also to the unremitting vigilance of the Police and Military patrols. My thanks are due to the Inspector General of Police who was on the spot practically throughout the strike and ensured the thorough efficiency of the Police force and to the Chief Commandant who visited the Field on three different occasions and to the officers and men of the Mysore Lancers who enthusistically co-operated with the Civil authorities in the preventive measures.

To Mr. Bocquet, Chief Inspector of Mines and his staff who worked in close co-operation with me, I owe sincere thanks.

My grateful acknowledgments are also due to the Second Member of Council who camped on the Field for the major portion of this period and gave me strength and courage by his advice and guidance.

-------:000:-------

1/5/35

In the Court of the District Magistrate of Kolar.

Dated, Camp Oorgaum, the 20th day of April 1930.

Present:—A. V. Ramanathan, Esq., B.A., District Magistrate.

Cr. Mis. No: Camp 2 of 1929-1930.

BY VIRTUE of the authority vested in me as District Magistrate by Section 39 of the Mysore Police Regulation, I, Mr. A. V. Ramanathan, District Magistrate of Kolar do hereby prohibit within the local limits of the areas of the five Gold Mining Companies operating on the Kolar Gold Field or the adjoining villages of Ooregum, Robertsonpet, Sonnakuppam, Masikam or Andersonpet, from the 20th day of April 1930 until the 15th day of May 1930 inclusive, the carrying of arms, cudgels or other weapons, the carrying, collection and preparation of stones or other missiles or instruments or means of casting or impelling missiles and also the delivery of harangues which may incite to the commission of an offence or to a disturbance of the public peace.

This prohibition shall not apply to Government officers, including Special Police Officers and such other individuals as are specially exempted by me or the Special Magistrate, Champion Reefs or the Munsiff Magistrate, Robertsonpet or the Special Superintendent of Police by an order in writing in respect of each individual.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Court this the twentieth day of April 1930 at Camp Oorgaum.

SEAL

A. V. RAMANATHAN,
District Magistrate,
Kolar District.

IMPERIAL PRESS, ROBERTSONPET

In the Court of the District Magistrate, Kolar District.

Dated, Camp Oorgaum, the 20th day of April 1930.

Present:—A. V. Ramanathan, Esq., B.A., District Magistrate.

Cr. Mis. No: Camp 1 of 1929-1930.

BY VIRTUE of the authority vested in me as District Magistrate by Section 45 of the Mysore Police Regulation, I, Mr. A. V. Ramanathan, District Magistrate, Kolar, do hereby direct that no public meeting or assembly of more than five persons in a public place shall be held or conducted and that no drum or tom tom be beaten within the local limits of the areas of the Five Gold Mining Companies operating on the Kolar Gold Field or the adjoining villages of Ooregum, Sonnakuppam, Robertsonpet, Masikam or Andersonpet from this day until the 15th day of May 1930, except under license from me or from the Special Magistrate, Champion Reefs or Munsiff Magistrate, Robertsonpet or the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Field.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Court this the twentieth day of April 1930 at Oorgaum.

A. V. RAMANATHAN,

District Magistrate,

Kolar District.

SEAL

IMERIAL PRESS, ROBERTSONPET.

NOTICE.

In continuation of the Notice of 4th April and in respect to a further and final modification of the terms thereof, Notice is hereby given that the new procedure governing the Employment of Labour will be as follows :—

1. The name of "Central Labour Register" is altered to "Employment Office".

2. Finger-printing is abolished except under the Old Rule whereunder men employed in Reduction Works must continue to give their finger-prints.

3. A Mine disc is substituted for the Central Labour Register disc which is abolished. Men who have already received Central Labour Register discs must return them in exchange for a Mine disc.

4. **OLD LABOUR.**

All men whose names were on the Companies' or Contractors' Rolls at 4th April 1930 will be classed as OLD LABOUR and they will be required to :—

(*a*) Attend at their Mine Office and have name, particulars and description taken.

(*b*) As regards Contractors' labour, to attest the above by signature or left thumb impression.

(*c*) Receive a Mine Disc.

(*d*) Afterwards if they transfer to another Mine, to report at the Employment Office and proceed as in the case of New Labour.

5. **NEW LABOUR.**

All men engaged after 4th April 1930 and Old Labour transferring thereafter to another Mine will be classed as NEW LABOUR and will be required to :—

(*a*) Attend at the Employment Office and have name, particulars and description taken.

(*b*) Attest the above by signature or left thumb impression.

(*c*) Receive Medical Examination.

(*d*) Receive a Mine Disc.

(*e*) Report at the Employment Office when they transfer to another Mine or leave.

6. **SERVICE GRATUITY.**

Contractors' coolies will be entitled to participate under the Service Gratuity Scheme without finger-printing, for which there will be substituted their signature or left thumb impression.

The finger-print records of men who have deposited finger-prints for this purpose have been destroyed.

15th April, 1930.

NOTICE.

Replies by the Superintendents of the Mines to submissions received on behalf of the labour employed at the five Mines. In the case of submissions which are particular to one Mine only, reply will be given direct to the Mine Panchayat by the Superintendent of the Mine concerned.

Submissions.	Mining Companies' reply.
1. That a notice shall be published to the effect that finger-print forms not claimed have been destroyed by the District Magistrate on the 10th April and the employees have incurred no liability to the Companies in respect of such finger-prints.	There is no liability and there never was.
2. That particulars of qualifications for receiving long service gratuity be published and the broken periods when absence is less than fixed limit should be calculated as one continuous period.	The present system is under review with the object of extending the benefits if possible.
3. That full pay be granted during the period of strike.	Strike pay will not be granted.
4. That the attendance bonus be allowed to employees working under contractors as in the case of Company employees.	This is the Contractors' business but Companies will discuss it with them with a view to seeing if a scheme can be worked out.
5. In reference to the Workmen's Compensation Regulation whereby injured workers receive half pay during temporary disablement after the first 10 days it is submitted that instead of half pay full pay from the date of accident shall be given. The workers are willing to subscribe one anna each per month to form an accident fund out of which the increased cost to the Mining Companies might be met.	The present arrangement is in accordance with the Government Regulation and full pay cannot be given.
6. That sick pay be increased to half wages instead of the uniform rate of four annas per day.	The rate of four annas per day will be retained as a minimum but the introduction of a sliding scale based on the rate of pay will be introduced on the first of July 1930.
7. That employees be given an annual increase in their pay based on the length of service at such rates as Superintendents think fit.	The principle of annual increase cannot be introduced. Increases will continue to be given as heretofore according to merit.
8. That a Provident Fund Scheme be introduced for the employees. Contributions to be one anna in the Rupee which is to be repaid on the retirement of the employee together with the Companies' contribution.	This has been enquired into many times and has always been found impracticable having regard to the nature of the industry and local conditions.
9. That the Superintendent be requested to recognise elected representatives of the workmen from among themselves as a Panchayat entitled to represent individually or collectively the grievances of the workmen to him.	Yes, subject to the Superintendent being satisfied as to its representative character and that Panchayatdar is a bona fide employee of the Company.

16th April, 1930.

In the court of the District Magistrate of Kolar.

(Camp) Oorgaum, the ..... April 1930.

Present:- A.V. Ramanathan, Esqr., B.A., District Magistrate.

Mis. Petn. Camp No:1 of 1929-30

****

Read :-

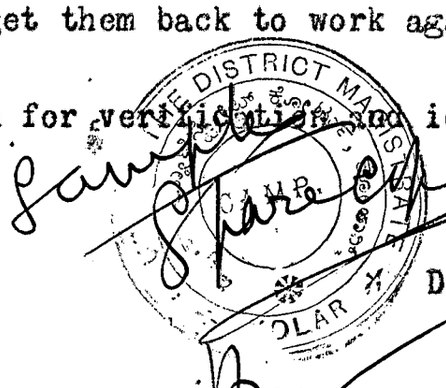
Petition of .....

..... and others

dated the ..... April 1930.

E N D O R S E M E N T.

..... and others are hereby informed that the signature or left thumb impressions given by them in the identification ticket to the..... ..... Mine does not bind them in law to the - Company in any way, that it does not prevent them from changing his employment ~~fxx~~ from the Company to another employer at their will and pleasure and that it does not give the company any right to get them back to work against their will. It is only a specimen for verification and identification.



District Magistrate,
Kolar District.

GOVERNMENT OF HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA OF MYSORE,
MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

GS-3892

In replying please quote
No. G.C. 371

OFFICE OF THE SENIOR SURGEON IN MYSORE,
Bangalore, dated the 5. 5. 30 1930

Enc.

Telegrams :—
SENORGEN.

Telephone :—
No. 27

FROM

S. SUBBA RAO, ESQ., B.A., M.B.C.M., M.R.C.S., (Eng.) L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
Senior Surgeon with the Government of His Highness
the Maharaja of Mysore.

To

CHIEF SECRETARY. 5 MAY 1930

The Chief Secretary to the Government
of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore,
Bangalore.

SIR,

I have the honor to state that the District Medical Officer, Kolar Gold Fields intimated that on the 24th April 1930, 13 cases of Gun-shot injury were admitted into the Civil Hospital. In order to meet possible emergencies, Dr.D.S.Puttanna was requested to proceed immediately to Robertsonpet and attend to the cases. Of the 13 cases, only four persons had sustained severe injuries and they were persuaded to go to Bangalore for treatment in the Victoria Hoapital. Two of them are reported to have arrived here and to be under treatment.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

S. Subba Rao
Senior Surgeon.

CHIEF SECRETARY. 8 MAY 1930

Submitted for perusal.

EAR
T/S

Hon Member

9/5

10662
9/5

9/5

D.O. No. 3904./Enls

PRIVATE SECRETARY TO THE DEWAN MYSORE

Bangalore,

5th May 1930.

Dear Mr. Madhava Rao, CS 3882.

I enclose herewith copies of letter received from Mr. Ralph Nye by the Dewan and his reply thereto on the settlement of the recent strike in the Kolar Gold Field.

Yours sincerely,

K Narasimha Rao

Submitted for perusal

Member (Pol)

5331/6/5 6681/7/5

8/5/30

D.O.No.H.358. Bangalore,

5th May 1930.

Dear Mr. Nye,

I appreciated very much your courtesy in writing to me as you have done and I am greatly obliged for your letter of May 3.

It was indeed a great pleasure to me to have been associated with gentlemen like you and the members of your Committee in the settlement of the recent dispute, a settlement which has given, I believe, immense satisfaction to the labourers.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) MIRZA M. ISMAIL.

"COPY"

Messrs. John Taylor and Sons' Committee.

O o r g a u m.
May 3, 1930.

To

Amin-ul-Mulk
Sir Mirza M. Ismail, Kt., C.I.E., O.B.E.,
Dewan of Mysore,
B a n g a l o r e.

S i r,

The Mining Companies have asked me as Chairman of their Committee to convey to you their respectful and grateful thanks for your personal intervention in the recent unfortunate dispute with the coolies and to say how they esteem the honor of having been associated with you in the settlement which was brought about.

The Companies are aware of the many calls on your valuable time particularly at this special period in India's political history and they appreciate it all the more that you should have put yourself to the inconvenience of visiting the Field under such circumstances.

It is to be hoped that the coolies are now settling down to their accustomed state of contentment and the Mining Companies trust that at no long distant date they may have the honor of receiving you under much happier auspices.

I have the honor to be,

S i r ,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) RALPH NYE.

C h a i r m a n.

"COPY"

C.S-3903

MESSRS. JOHN TAYLOR & SONS' COMMITTEE.

L COMMUNICATIONS TO BE ADDRESSED
TO THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:—
"COMMITTEE OORGAUM."

OORGAUM,
SOUTH INDIA.

DEWAN'S OFFICE
8 - MAY 1930
4718

May. 6. 1930.

N. Madhava Rao, Es[redacted] B.A., B.[redacted]
Chief Secretary to the Government of Mysore,
Bangalore.

Sir,

I have the honor on behalf of the Mining Companies to ask if you will be so good as to accept their grateful thanks for the actions which Mr.A.V.Ramanathan, Deputy Commissioner took on behalf of Government throughout the period of the recent General Strike on the Gold Field.

As Deputy Commissioner he early entered upon the role of mediator and gave unsparingly of his valuable experience to assist in exploring every possible channel towards reconciliation and contemporaneously he exerted himself as Special Magistrate to the fullest limit of his powers to maintain law and order in the course of which the necessity for quick decision was constantly thrust upon him and the burden of responsibility enlarged accordingly.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Executive Member.

Subd for perusal.
reference may be made to this in
Govt review which is proposed
issue on the narrative report of the
vents (copies have been subd to Members of Cl.)
now
A.R. Dewan 7/5

8-5-30

O. C.C.21/29-30.

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT.
(Camp) Oorgaum,
Dated, ~~Kolar~~, the.....6th..M..a..y.....193 0.

CB 3916

My dear Madhava Rao,

I send enclosed, for the information of Government, copy of letter dated 6th May 1930. received from Messrs: John Taylor & Sons' Committee, Oorgaum, and state that copies of the same have been sent to the several officers who worked during the recent strike.

CHIEF SECRETARY, DEWAN'S OFFICE
8 MAY 1930
10. MAY 1930
4741

Yours sincerely,

To

N. Madhava Rao, Esq., B.A., B.L.,
Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore,
Bangalore.

Copy of letter dated6th May 1930 from the Executive Member, Messrs: John Taylor & Sons' Committee, Oorgaum, K.G.F., to the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District, Camp O O r g a u m.

I have the honor to ask if you will be so ~~good~~ kind as to convey to the Special Magistrate, the Munsiff and other of your officers the thanks of the Mining Companies for thei actions during the recent general strike. Their ready availability anddesire to assist in all ways has been most deeply appreciated

---

"Copy"

Copy of letter dated6th May 1930 from the Executive Member,
Messrs: John Taylor & Sons' Committee, Dorgaum, K.G.F.,
to the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District,

Camp O O r g a u m.

I have the honor to ask if you will be so good kind as to convey to the Special Magistrate, the Sheriff and other of your officers the thanks of the Mining Companies for their actions during the recent general strike. Their ready availability andwillingness to assist in all ways has been most deeply appreciated.

"Copy"

10th May 1930xx

Dear Mr.Narayanaswamy Iyengar,

In connection with the recent strike on the Kolar Gold Field four cases of serious injury were reported-two on each of the occasions (on the 7th and 24th April 1930, respectively) on which the Police had to resort to firing. Will you kindly let me know for the information of Government how these cases have been progressing?

Yours sincerely,

To

B. Narayanaswamy Iyengar Esq., B.A., B.L.,
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

D.O. C.C.20/29-30.
One.

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT.

Dated, Kolar, the....13th M.a.y.....*1930*

CP 3990

Dear Mr. Madhava Rao,

In continuation of my D.O. letter No:C.C.20/29-30 dated 12th May 1930, I send enclosed copy of telephone message received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, in connection with the four cases of serious injury reported on each of the two occasions (7th and 24th April 1930) in connection with the recent strike on the Kolar Gold Fields.

The M.O. Victoria Hospital may be asked to send a report to the Law Officers as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

To

N. Madhava Rao, Esq., B.A., B.L.,
Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore,
Bangalore.

Draft D.O. put up
(The Law Secy's letter will be obtd & put up, after issue)

Cpl 14/5/30

(D.O issued)

Copy of telephone message received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, to the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District on 12th May 1930 7.30 P.M.

Your telephone message received. Two persons seriously injured in Mysore Mines firing on the 7th April and two persons similarly injured in Balaghat firing on the 24th were sent to Victoria Hospital on 13th April 1930 and 28th April 1930 respectively for X'ray -- Examination and treatments. The two persons injured in Mysore Mines firing are said to have been discharged from the Victoria Hospital as they became alight. Regarding the two cases of Balaghat no accurate information could be immediately furnished from here. It is learnt however that they are also improving. All the persons admitted for gun shot injuries into the Robertsonpet Hospital have been discharged and there have been no deaths in connection with the firing on the two days. One case under Sections 143 & 147, 342, 323, and 332 I.P.C. was registered against 78 accused in connection with the Mysore Mines incident on the 7th.

It was charge sheeted and the Special Magistrate who is a witness in it has transferred to the District

Magistrate. It has to be withdrawn in pursuance of Law Secretary's letter.

Another case under Section 143, to 149, 151 152, 188 and 332 I.P.C. and 70 Mysore Police Regulation was registered against 40 persons in connection with the Balaghat incident on the 24th, charge sheeted and withdrawn as per Law Secretary's letter.

"Copy"

Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

R. S. III—3]

ROUTINE NOTES.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

The papers re withdrawal of cases referred to above may be kindly ~~sent~~ sent for perusal of Chief Secy

Qpl 14.5.30

Mr Jagadeo with compts

The linked file contains the papers required

BMJ 15/5/30

Addl Sec Jdl 17/5

linked file is retained — this is returned with thanks —

Superintendent CPs with compts

ME 19.5

The linked file may be taken back

Qpl 17/5

Mr Jagadeo with Compts

CHIEF SECRETARY. 15 MAY 1930

Sent for perusal of Chief Secy

by 17/5

N. B.—Should routine notes be written on small sl ps the notes must be cipoed, or slips pasted on this form

G. R. S. III—3]

ROUTINE NOTES.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

N. B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips, the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form.

14th May 1930.

No. 4317/65.

Dear Sir,

In forwarding herewith an extract from a telephone message received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, I am desired to request you to kindly state for the information of Government how the four cases admitted to the Victoria Hospital have been progressing.

Yours sincerely,

D.S. Puttanna, Esq., B.A., F.R.C.S.,L.M.,
Medical Officer, Victoria Hospital,
Bangalore.

THE VICTORIA HOSPITAL

Bangalore, Dated 16-5-1930. *19*

D.O. No. 111

CB 4033

Dear Sir,

In reply to your D.O. letter No. 4317/CB dated the 14th asking for information as to how the Four cases of persons injured in the Kolar Gold Fields firing are progressing, I send enclosed a statement giving full particulars of all the cases from which it will be seen that the shots were found to be too deep-seated and no attempt at exploration was considered necessary as the persons concerned exhibited no signs of discomfort, and were discharged at their own request. They were also given railway fares to go back to K.G.F.

Yours Sincerely,

D.S. Puttanna.

MEDICAL OFFICER IN CHARGE.

To

N. Madhava Rao Esq., B.A.,B.L.,
Chief Secretary to Government,
Bangalore.

Statement showing the names of persons who were treated in the Victoria Hospital, Bangalore for Gun-shot injuries received during the Kolar Gold Field Disturbances.

No.	Name.	Sex.	Age.	Caste.	Address.	Nature of wound.	Result of X-Ray examination.	Remarks.
1.	Subba.	Male.	30 Yrs.	Hindu.	c/o Self, K.G.F.	Gun-shot wound Left Parotid.	Shadow of shot to the lateral side of transverse process of cervical vertibrae.	There was a certain amount of oedema over the side of the wound which was relieved by suitable treatment but no attempt at Extraction of the shots were made, as they were situated too deep without giving any untoward symptoms.
2.	Govrappa.	Male.	30 Yrs.	Hindu.	c/o Self, K.G.F.	Gun-shot wound Left side of chest.	Shadow of shot in middle of left chest	
3.	Muniah.	Male	30 Yrs.		c/o Self, Balaghat, K.G.F.	Gun shot wound Right side of neck.	Shadow of shot to the lateral side of transverse process of cervical vertebrae.	
4.	Muniswamy.	Male.	35 Yrs.		c/o Self, Balaghat, K.G.F.	Gun shot wound Left cheek.	Shadow of shot just below left orbit.	

Dated 16th May 1930.
Bangalore.

D S Puttaswamy

Medical officer in charge,
Victoria Hospital,
Bangalore.

RE: STRIKE OF LABOURERS ON THE K.G.F.

Proceedings of the Government of H.H. the Maharaja of Mysore.

Read:-

Narrative report of the events connected with the strike on the Kolar Gold Field in April 1930 received from the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District, with his letter No. C.20 dated 1st May 1930.

(Here enter in extenso)

2. Letter dated the 6th May 1930 from the Executive Member, Messrs. John Taylor & Sons' Committee.

(Here enter in extenso.)

3. Letter No. C.C. 21 dated 6th May 1930 from the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar, forwarding copy of a letter* (reproduced below) dated 6th May 1930 received by him from the Executive Member, Messrs. John Taylor & Sons' Committee.

(here enter the letter)*

ORDER NO.

DATED, BANGALORE THE 1930

Recorded.

2. It is a matter for gratification that although the strike lasted for over three weeks and serious situations developed from time to time, the local officers were generally able to maintain public peace without resorting to the use of force. On ~~only~~ two occasions the police were

A statement showing the number of persons who received injuries on these occasions is appended.

compelled to open fire in order to disperse unlawful assemblies. ~~From~~ The fact that the Police firing resulted in no deaths and very few persons sustained injuries of any serious character, ~~it is evident~~ from that only the minimum of force required in the circumstances was used and that the local officers acted with coolness and restraint.

3. Government are pleased to place on record their appreciation of the vigilance and energy with which the situation was handled by Mr. A.V. Ramanathan, Deputy Commissioner and District Magistrate. They are also glad to endorse the Deputy Commissioner's testimony to the good work done in this connection by Messrs. S.Narayana Rao, Special Superintendent of Police, V. Vedavyasacharya, Special Magistrate and S. Krishnamurthi, Munsiff Magistrate and to the help rendered by Mr. R.Bocquet, Chief Inspector of Mines and his staff.

4. The acknowledgments of Government are due to the Management of the Mining Companies for their whole-hearted co-operation in the measures taken for controlling the situation and in creating an atmosphere of good-will which led to an amicable settlement.

Chief Secretary to Govt.

To

The Revenue Commissioner in Mysore.
" Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dt.
" I. G. of Police in Mysore.
" Chief Commandant, M.S.Troops.
" Registrar, Chief Court, with a c.l.

Copy to the Executive Member, Messrs. John Taylors & Sons' Committee.

PRESS TABLE.

RE: STRIKE OF LABOURERS ON THE K.G.F.

Proceedings of the Government of
H.H. the Maharaja of Mysore.

*****

Read:-

Narrative report of the events connected with the strike on the Kolar Gold Field in April 1930 received from the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District, with his letter No.C. 20 dated 1st May 1930.

(Here enter in extenso)

2. Letter dated the 6th May 1930 from the Executive Member, Messrs. John Taylor & Sons' Committee.

(Here enter in extenso)

3. Letter No. C.C. 21 dated 6th May 1930 from the Deputy Commissoner, Kolar, forwarding copy of a letter (reproduced below) dated 6th May 1930 received by him from the Executive Member, Messrs. John Taylor & Sons' Committee.

(Here enter the letter)

ORDER NO. 4563-70 / CP 159-29-4

DATED, BANGALORE THE 5th June 1930.

Recorded.

2. On two occasions the Police were compelled to fire in order to disperse unlawful assemblies. A statement showing the number of persons who received injuries on these two occasions is appended. The fact that the Police firing resulted in no deaths and very few persons sustained injuries of any

serious character, shows that only the minimum of force required in the circumstances was used and that the local officers acted with coolness and restraint.

3. Government are pleased to place on record their appreciation of the vigilance and energy with which the situation was handled by Mr.A.V Ramanathan, Deputy Commissioner and District Magistrate. They are also glad to endorse the Deputy Commissioner's testimony to the good work done in this connection by Messrs. S. Narayana Rao, Special Superintendent of Police, V.Vedavyasacharya, Special Magistrate and S. Krishnamurthi, Munsiff Magistrate and to the help rendered by Mr. R. Bocquet, Chief Inspector of Mines and his staff.

4. The acknowledgments of Government are due to the Management of the Mining Companies for their whole-hearted co-operation in the measures taken for controlling the situation and in creating an atmosphere of good-will which led to an amicable settlement.

Chief Secretary to Government.

To

The Revenue Commissioner in Mysore.
" Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dt.
" I. G. of Police in Mysore.
" Chief Commandant, Mysore State Troops.
" Registrar, ~~Chief~~ Court with a c.l.
Copy to the Executive Member, Messrs.John Taylor & Sons' Committee, Oorgaum.

PRESS TABLE. (if considered necessary)

Appendix

Statement showing the number of persons who were injured on the two occasions on which firing had to be resorted to by the Police.

I. on 7th April 1930.

48 persons were reported to have sustained injuries and treated in the local hospital, two of the cases being of a serious nature.

Besides 6 men of the Reserve Police were also hurt.

II on 24th April 1930.

20 men received injuries, two of the cases being of a serious nature.

One Resaldar, one Police Inspector and some constables were hit by stones.

(H.R. & Y.)

KOLAR GOLD FIELD GENERAL STRIKE.

APRIL 1930.

R E P O R T.

On the 1st of April 1930, at about 11 a.m. one of the officers of the Detective Establishment noticed a manuscript notice in Tamil affixed to a rock in the Oorgaum Cooly Lines, calling upon all the coolies to refuse to sign or give thumb impression to the new Registration forms instituted by the Mining Companies and to take rice on the 7th April and ~~should~~ to stop away from work on the 8th April. The Superintendent of Police showed this notice to Mr. Crowle, Superintendent of Oorgaum Mine, the same day and to Col. Benn White, who was due to take charge of the Superintendent's Office the next day. He also spoke to Mr.Jones, the Registrar of Labour, and reported the fact to me. I immediately came to the Kolar Gold Field on the 2nd April 1930, spoke to Mr. Nye, the Executive Member and the Chairman of Messrs. John Taylor & Sons' Committee. While I was waiting in the office of the Chief Inspector of Mines, who was engaged in his court as Justice of the Peace, a number of coolies and maistries of Oorgaum Mine came to that office and on questioning the principal persons among them, I learnt that they had come to know why they were being required to give sixteen finger impressions and to find out whether there was any legal significance in them and whether it was objectionable. I directed them to the Mine Office where, I said, the Mine Officers would show them the form and point out the contents and if any intelligent person among them found anything objectionable in the contents, the Mine Officers would certainly remove such objectionable matters. I telephoned to Mr. Nye accordingly. Mr. Nye suggested that I might stay till evening if convenient and meet the Committee at 7 O'clock. I stayed accordingly and met the Committee. I pointed out to them

the necessity for prompt measures to remove the misapprehensions about the finger impressions and if necessary to remove them so as to avoid the misunderstanding by labour. The Committee at first said that the Tamil notice need not call for serious thought but subsequently agreed to take active steps to dispel misapprehensions and to arrange that a responsible officer was present when finger prints were taken.

The Committee accordingly issued a Tamil printed notice explaining clearly the meaning and significance of the registration and finger prints and pointing out that it was merely for the purposes of identification and did not involve either indenture or slavery, or any other liability or restriction in the change of employment.

On the 3rd April 1930, the Superintendent of Police reported that 400 men stayed away from work in the Oorgaum Mine. On the 4th, ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ I learnt that in addition to the 400 men of Oorgaum, another 300 in that Mine and 300 more of Nundydroog had struck work and that more were likely to do so and that the coolies of the Oorgaum Mine were not satisfied with the notice already published and wanted the discontinuance of the new system and the return of the slips already taken. I immediately proceeded to Oorgaum. A notice was again found that morning calling upon all people to stay away from work the next day. In the meantime, at a meeting that noon, the Committee had revised their plan of ~~their~~ registration, giving up finger prints in the case of all Company labour already on the book and requiring finger prints only in respect of new labour and in respect of Contractors' labour if they wanted service gratuity. They also agreed to return the finger prints of such coolies as wanted them back. The strike however spread and all the coolies stayed away from work on the 5th April in both these Mines. I received a telephone the same day requesting me to

to defer availing myself of the leave until the situation on the Field became normal. I went through the lines and explained to the people what the Companies had done and pointed out that that was all that could reasonably be expected. I have continuously stayed on the Field since the 5th April. On the 6th, labour was holding meetings and attempting to get other Mines to join. I did my best to counteract it. By midnight however, it was fairly clear that all the Mines would join in the strike the next day. I reported this to the Government in a letter that night and explained the situation in detail and asked for Military force being kept in readiness and for additional Police. On the 7th there was a general strike - Early that morning, I heard that there was a crowd in the Mysore Mine timber yard which was nasty. But the Police and the Special Magistrates succeeded in dispersing ~~them~~ it. When I went to the Mine all was quiet except for the wild talk of several irresponsible youths. I induced five persons out of them to inspect their finger print slips and then destroy them, and after dispersing the crowd returned to the Guest House to be in touch with the entire area. Meanwhile the Special Superintendent of Police and the Magistrate went to deal with a meeting of 6000 labour in Robertsonpet and succeeded in dispersing it peacefully.

But when the officers were touring in the area afterwards, they came across a wild crowd besieging the Madrasi Watchmen line in the Mysore Mine and preventing the watchmen from going to work. This had to be dispersed by lathi charge and shooting.

The rest of the day was quiet. Same evening the Second Member of Council and the Inspector-General of Police arrived. By the 7th, the Committee had decided on the destruction of the finger print slips.

For the next one week, I was busily engaged in preventing breaches of the peace, and securing labour to elect representatives and present their grievances to the Management and ensuring that good-will continued between the Labour and the Management and in allaying suspicion. Meantime on the 10th April, the Superintendents of the several Mines, in order to allay suspicion, handed over to me for scrutiny and destruction all the finger print slips that had not been claimed by labourers until that date. They were destroyed by me in public on the 10th April after showing the slips of all the persons who came and asked for them and explaining the contents to them. Several slips were caused to be read and explained by a person in the crowd who was literate in English. By the 12th April, the representations of all labourers were before the Committee and on the 15th at a meeting in the Coorgaum Hall, the Management announced their decision to the representatives of the Labour. In that they refused strike pay and stated that in respect of Provident Fund there were difficulties in its institution; and in respect of the main grievance, the Management changed the Central Labour Register into Employment Office, abolished finger printing except where it had been required prior to January 1930 and substituted a Mine disc in place of the Central Labour disc. But they insisted on signature or the left thumb impression, in respect of contractors' labour and all new labour.

It was soon apparent that the continuance of the Employment Office and the requirement of signature or left thumb impression in the case of the contractors' labour and of new labour was resented by the labourers. This was explained by me to the Management and also reported to Government on the 17th April. The Management however, were unable to concede to these requests. Labourers began to ask to be paid up-to-date with a view to leave for their homes. A number of coolies began to leave from the 15th.

The Mining Companies on their part tried to secure some

persons to resume work. On the 19th, about 80 men of Nundydroog came to work at 9 A.M. but their women and about 1000 other strikers came at 12 noon and demanded the return of the men. The crowd took an ugly turn but the Superintendent promised to send back the men. When they came up from underground the crowd dispersed without the use of force. One Mr. V.M. Ramaswami, B.A.B.L. President of the Kerosine Oil Workers Union, Madras, came to the Field that day and wanted permission to hold a general meeting of the labourers. But on the situation being explained to him he went back.

On the 20th Messrs. John Taylor & Sons' Committee wrote urging for action under the Police Regulation to prevent meetings and of moving crowds armed with lathis &c., which went about to intimidate workers who were willing to resume work. After anxiously considering the situation and also consulting the local officers I decided to issue necessary orders under Sections 39 and 45 of the Mysore Police Regulation. I appointed also 226 special constables, 5 head constables and one Station House Officer in view of the situation.

On the 23rd about 400 men returned to work in Mysore Mine and 45 in Balaghat. In Oorgaum about 100 men registered their names but work was not resumed. At about noon that day a crowd of 400 persons gathered in the Mysore Mine area to demand the return of the men who had come to work. But the crowd was dispersed by persuasion and without using force. Later, however, it was found that a good number of those working on the surface had joined the crowd, the moment they saw it and even while the Police were dealing with it. On the 24th, about 250 men went to work in Balaghat Mine. The situation was quiet till about 10 A.M. But after that, strikers from Nundydrug Mine particularly and from other Mines began to pour in from the Balaghat area to demand return of the men. About 200 persons arrived by the 10-30 A.M. train and got into the Balaghat Cooly Lines to intimidate the families to get back

their men. The Munsiff Magistrate on learning of this proceeded to the spot to deal with the situation. On my rounds, the Special Superintendent of Police and myself heard of the trouble and rushed to the spot. Meantime another 250 people came and were about to enter the Balaghat Lines. We succeeded in sending them out and were engaged in getting out the 200 people who had previously got into the Lines. The work was difficult as the ~~inmates~~ inmates of the Lines harboured these men and did not help in pointing out the strangers. By about 12 noon another crowd appeared from the Nundydrug side and I posted special constables and reserve constables to block their passage. Meantime reinforcements of Military and Police had arrived. But the outer crowd also got reinforced and now numbered 1000. I deputed the Munsiff Magistrate and the Special Superintendent of Police to attend to that crowd, I myself being in charge of the Balaghat line crowd, the whole of which was now hostile, to prevent its joining the outer crowd and attacking the Military and Police from the rear, and to protect the Mine properties. Inspite of persuasion for over two hours the crowd could not be dispersed without lathi charge and shooting by the Police. I immediately telephoned for additional Military help in view of the changing temper of the crowds. The same night a butcher's stall in Balaghat was burnt.

The Dewan telegraphed the same day announcing that he would visit the Kolar Gold Field on Sunday the 27th.

On the 25th and 26th there was a general feeling of expectancy of the Dewan's visit and I was engaged in allaying the suspicions of labour about the thumb impression or signature and issuing public endorsements.

On the morning of the 27th when I left for Bowringpet to await the Dewan's arrival, two Punjabi Watchmen were severely assaulted by certain coolies in the Oorgaum Village - a further indication that the situation was getting ugly.

The Dewan's visit, however, changed the situation entirely. His visit to the Lines and his patient hearing of labourer's grievances both in the Lines and at the Guest House touched their hearts. By his ~~kind~~ intercession, the Committee decided to abolish the system of obtaining the signature or thumb impression of their employees and also the Employment office.

The announcement of this decision gave widespread satisfaction and the Dewan was given a magnificient send off by the labourers on his return to Bangalore.

On the 28th April all labour returned to work and the strike was at an end.

The Sanitary Board Conservancy staff attended to the sanitation of the Nundydrug, Balaghat and Mysore Mines during a major portion of the strike period under the direction of Dr. Peidpet.

Throughout the period of the strike the situation was kept carefully under control by the capable management of Mr.S.Narayana Rao, the Special Superintendent of Police on whom the responsibility for all the arrangements personally devolved. His coolness, intelligence and thoroughness in organisation and dealing with the situation could not easily have been excelled. Messrs. Vedavyasacharya and S. Krishnamurthi, the two Magistrates who bore the brunt of the work acquitted themselves creditably and showed exemplary patience in dealing with the crowds. That there were two unfortunate instances necessitating shooting does not detract from the ability of these officers. On the contrary, I am fully satisfied that but for their care and anxiety to avoid the use of force the situation would have been much worse and the use of force would have been necessary on several other occasions. That the unprecedented strike of 18,000 labourers extending over three weeks passed off with so few incidents, is due also to the unremitting vigilance of the Police and Military patrols. My thanks are due to the

Inspector General of Police who was on the spot practically throughout the strike and ensured the thorough efficiency of the Police force and to the Chief Commandant who visited the Field on three different occasions and to the officers and men of the Mysore Lancers who enthusiastically co-operated with the Civil authorities in the preventive measures.

To Mr. Bocquet, Chief Inspector of Mines and his staff who worked in close co-operation with me, I owe sincere thanks.

My grateful acknowledgments are also due to the Second Member of Council who camped on the Field for the major portion of this period and gave me advice and guidance.

"Copy."

Government of his highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

GENERAL AND REVENUE DEPARTMENTS.

G. O. No. 4563-70—C. B. 159-29-21, dated 5th June 1930.

10

Strike of labourers on the Kolar Gold Field.

Reviews the report submitted by the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District, regarding the events connected with the ——

READ—

Narrative report of the events connected with the strike on the Kolar Gold Field in April 1930, received from the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District, with his letter No. C. 20, dated 1st May 1930.

"On the 1st of April 1930, at about 11 A.M., one of the officers of the Detective Establishment noticed a manuscript notice in Tamil affixed to a rock in the Oorgaum Cooly Lines, calling upon all the coolies to refuse to sign or give thumb impression to the new registration forms instituted by the Mining Companies and to take rice on the 7th April and to stop away from work on the 8th April. The Superintendent of Police showed this notice to Mr. Crowle, Superintendent of Oorgaum Mine, the same day and to Col. Benn White, who was due to take charge of the Superintendent's Office the next day. He also spoke to Mr. Jones, the Registrar of Labour and reported the fact to me. I immediately came to the Kolar Gold Field on the 2nd April 1930 and spoke to Mr. Nye, the Executive Member and the Chairman of Messrs. John Taylor & Sons' Committee. While I was waiting in the office of the Chief Inspector of Mines, who was engaged in his court as Justice of the Peace, a number of coolies and maistries of Oorgaum Mine came to that office and on questioning the principal persons among them, I learnt that they had come to know why they were being required to give sixteen finger impressions and to find out whether there was any legal significance in them and whether it was unobjectionable. I directed them to the Mine Office where, I said, the Mine Officers would show them the form and point out the contents and if any intelligent person among them found anything objectionable in the contents, the Mine Officers would certainly remove such objectionable matters. I telephoned to Mr. Nye accordingly. Mr. Nye suggested that I might stay till evening, if convenient, and meet the Committee at 7 o'clock. I stayed accordingly and met the Committee. I pointed out to them the necessity for prompt measures to remove the misapprehensions about the finger impressions and if necessary to remove them so as to avoid the misunderstanding by labour. The Committee at first said that the Tamil notice need not call for serious thought but subsequently agreed to take active steps to dispel misapprehension and to arrange that a responsible officer was present when finger prints were taken. The Committee accordingly issued a Tamil printed notice explaining clearly the meaning and significance of the registration and finger prints and pointing out that it was merely for the purposes of identification and did not involve either indenture or slavery, or any other liability or restriction in the change of employment.

On the 3rd April 1930, the Superintendent of Police reported that 400 men stayed away from work in the Oorgaum Mine. On the 4th, I learnt that in addition to the 400 men of Oorgaum another 300 in that Mine and 300 more of Nundydroog had struck work and that more were likely to do so and that the coolies of the Oorgaum Mine were not satisfied with the notice already published and wanted the discontinuance of the new system and the return of the slips already taken. I immediately proceeded to Oorgaum. A notice was again found that morning calling upon all people to stay away from work the next day. In the meantime, at a meeting that noon, the Committee had revised their plan of registration, giving up finger prints in the case of all Company labour already on the book and requiring finger prints only in respect of new labour and in respect of Contractors' labour if they wanted service gratuity. They also agreed to return the finger prints of such coolies as wanted them back. The strike however spread and all the coolies stayed away from work on the 5th April in both these Mines. I received a telephone the same day requesting me to defer availing myself of the leave until the situation on the field became normal. I went through the lines and explained to the people what the Companies had done and pointed out that that was all that could reasonably be expected. I have continuously stayed on the field since the 5th April. On the 6th, labour was holding meetings and attempting to get other Mines to join. I did my best to counteract it. By midnight however, it was fairly clear that all the Mines would join in the strike the next day. I reported this to the Government in a letter that night and explained the situation in detail and asked for Military force being kept in readiness and for additional Police. On the 7th there was a general strike. Early that morning, I heard that there was a crowd in the Mysore Mine timber yard which was nasty. But the Police and the Special Magistrates succeeded in dispersing it. When I went to the Mine all was quiet except for the wild talk of several irresponsible youths. I induced five persons out of them to inspect their finger print slips and then destroy them, and after dispersing the crowd returned to the Guest House to be in touch with the entire area. Meanwhile the Special Superintendent of Police and the Magistrate went to deal with a meeting of 6,000 labour in Robertsonpet and succeeded in dispersing it peacefully.

But when the officers were touring in the area afterwards, they came across a wild crowd besieging the Madrasi Watchmen's lines in the Mysore Mine and preventing the watchmen from going to work. This had to be disperse , by lathi charge and shooting.

The rest of the day was quiet. Same evening, the Second Member of Council and the Inspector-General of Police arrived. By the 7th, the Committee had decided on the destruction of the finger print slips.

For the next one week, I was busily engaged in preventing breaches of the peace, and securing labour to elect representatives and present their grievances to the Management and ensuring that good-will continued between the labour and the Management and in allaying suspicion. Meantime, on the 10th April, the Superintendents of the several Mines, in order to allay suspicion, handed over to me for scrutiny and destruction all the finger print slips that had not been claimed by labourers until that date. They were destroyed by me in public on the 10th April after showing the slips of all the persons who came and asked for them and explaining the contents to them. Several slips were caused to be read and explained by a person in the crowd who was literate in English. By the 12th April, the representations of all labourers were before the Committee and on the 15th at a meeting in the Oorgaum Hall, the Management announced their decision to the representatives of labour. In that, they refused strike pay and stated that in respect of Provident Fund there were difficulties in its institution; and in respect of the main grievance, the Management changed the Central Labour Register into Employment Office, abolished finger printing except where it had been required prior to January 1930 and substituted a Mine disc in place of the Central Labour disc. But they insisted on signature or the left thumb impression, in respect of contractors' labour and all new labour.

It was soon apparent that the continuance of the Employment Office and the requirement of signature or left thumb impression in the case of the contractors' labour and of new labour was resented by the labourers. This was explained by me to the Management and also reported to Government on the 17th April. The Management however, were unable to concede these requests. Labourers began to ask to be paid up-to-date with a view to leave for their homes. A number of coolies began to leave from the 15th.

The Mining Companies on their part tried to secure some persons to resume work. On the 19th, about 80 men of Nundydroog came to work at 9 A.M., but their women and about 1,000 other strikers came at 12 noon and demanded the return of the men. The crowd took an ugly turn but the Superintendent promised to send back the men. When they came up from underground the crowd dispersed without the use of force. One Mr. V. M. Ramaswami, B.A., B.L., President of the Kerosine Oil Workers Union, Madras, came to the Field that day and wanted permission to hold a general meeting of the labourers. But on the situation being explained to him he went back.

On the 20th, in order to prevent meetings and moving of crowds armed with lathis, etc., which went about to intimidate workers who were willing to resume work, I decided to issue necessary orders under Sections 39 and 45 of the Mysore Police Regulation. I appointed also 226 special constables, five head constables and one Station House Officer in view of the situation.

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The Dewan's visit, however, changed the situation entirely. His visit to the Lines and his patient hearing of labourers' grievances both in the Lines and at the Guest House touched their hearts. By his kind intercession, the Committee decided to abolish the system of obtaining the signature or thumb impression of their employees and also the Employment Office. The announcement of this decision gave widespread satisfaction and the Dewan was given a magnificient send off by the labourers on his return to Bangalore.

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My grateful acknowledgments are also due to the Second Member of Council who camped on the Field for the major portion of this period and gave me advice and guidance.

2. Letter dated the 6th May 1930, from the Executive Member, Messrs. John Taylor & Sons' Committee.

"I have the honour on behalf of the Mining Companies to ask if you will be so good as to accept their grateful thanks for the actions which Mr. A. V. Ramanathan, Deputy-Commissioner, took on behalf of Government throughout the period of the recent general strike on the Gold Field.

As Deputy Commissioner he early entered upon the role of mediator and gave unsparingly of his valuable experience to assist in exploring every possible channel towards reconciliation and contemporaneously he exerted himself as Special Magistrate to the fullest limit of his powers to maintain law and order in the course of which the necessity for quick decision was constantly thrust upon him and the burden of responsibility enlarged accordingly."

3. Letter No. C. C. 21, dated 6th May 1930, from the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar, forwarding copy of a letter (reproduced below), dated 6th May 1930, received by him from the Executive Member, Messrs. John Taylor & Sons' Committee.

I have the honor to ask if you will be so kind as to convey to the Special Magistrate, the Munsiff and other of your officers the thanks of the Mining Companies for their actions during the recent general strike. Their ready availability and desire to assist in all ways has been most deeply appreciated.

Order No. 4563-70—C. B. 159-29-21, dated 5th June 1930.

Recorded.

2. On two occasions, the Police were compelled to fire in order to disperse unlawful assemblies. A statement showing the number of persons who received injuries on these two occasions is appended. The fact that the Police firing resulted in no deaths and very few persons sustained injuries of any serious character, shows that only the minimum of force required in the circumstances was used and that the local officers acted with coolness and restraint.

3. Government are pleased to place on record their appreciation of the vigilance and energy with which the situation was handled by Mr. A. V. Ramanathan, Deputy Commissioner and District Magistrate. They are also glad to endorse the Deputy Commissioner's testimony to the good work done in this connection by Messrs. S. Narayana Rao, Special Superintendent of Police, V. Vedavyasacharya, Special Magistrate and S. Krishnamurthi, Munsiff Magistrate and to the help rendered by Mr. R. Bocquet, Chief Inspector of Mines and his staff.

4. The acknowledgments of Government are due to the Management of the Mining Companies for their whole-hearted co-operation in the measures taken for controlling the situation and in creating an atmosphere of good-will which led to an amicable settlement.

N. MADHAVA RAO,
Chief Secretary to Government.

To—The Revenue Commissioner in Mysore.
The Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.
The Inspector-General of Police in Mysore.
The Chief Commandant, Mysore State Troops.
The Registrar, High Court of Mysore (with a covering letter).
The Chief Inspector of Mines in Mysore.
The Director of Industries and Commerce in Mysore.
The President, Kolar Gold Field Sanitary Board.

APPENDIX.

Statement showing the number of persons who were injured on the two occasions on which firing had to be resorted to by the Police.

On 7th April 1930.

Six men of the Reserve Police were hurt.

Forty-eight persons were reported to have sustained injuries and treated in the local hospital, two of the cases being of a serious nature.

On 24th April 1930.

One Resaldar, one Police Inspector and some constables were hit by stones.

Twenty men received injuries, two of the cases being of a serious nature.

Exd.—P.S.R.N.

W D 3332—GPB—470 12-6-30